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SOVIET, U.S. SALT DELEGATIONS MEET IN GENEVA

LD061328Y Moscow TASS in English 1223 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, October 6, TASS--The USSR and U.S. delegations met today at the Soviet-U.S. talks on the limitation of strategic offensive arms.

OPTIMISM PREVAILS IN WASHINGTON ABOUT SALT TALKS

LD071448Y Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 7 Oct 78 LD

[Text] A new round of SALT talks will start in Moscow later this month. Our correspondent Yuriy Soltan sent this dispatch from Washington:

On the whole, optimistic sentiments prevail in Washington. It is noted here that during the talks between the Soviet foreign minister, Andrey Gromyko and American leaders, a common intention was expressed to work for a speedy conclusion of the preparation of an appropriate agreement.

It is underlined that both sides voiced new ideas on how to find mutually acceptable decisions on outstanding complex questions. Special attention is drawn in Washington to the fact that during Andrey Gromyko's meeting with President Carter, both sides expressed a desire to press for levelling off Soviet-American relations and for their stable development. It would be wrong of course to shut the eyes to the obstacles that are being put up along the path by some influential groups in the United States.

As soon as a certain possible turn has shaped for better Soviet-American relations, for one the definite progress at the SALT talks, the opponents of the relaxation of tension have immediately revived their activity. Participants in a recently created militaristic anticommunist grouping that consists of 147 senators and congressmen have declared they will refuse to support the agreement in Congress if the administration fails to force the Soviet Union to pay for it, that it is to make one-sided concessions.

Meanwhile, the military-industrial complex continues to intimidate Americans with a Soviet military threat. Its representatives in Congress and in the administration itself demand a course to steer for a military superiority over the Soviet Union in the hope to slow down and possible to prevent in general agreement on strategic arms limitation.

All this activity causes concern among many Americans. A prominent columnist (Don Drayton) writes in the Washington POST that there will be no peace if the United States is engulfed with a chauvinistic fever and presses for an absolute military superiority. The executive director of the pacifist organization New Directions, (Phil Gibbs) has said in an interview to our correspondent that the present progress at the Soviet-American SALT talks has inspired the American public. We hope, said (Phil Gibbs), that commonsense and statesmanlike wisdom will take the upper hand and that even this year there will be an agreement, which is very important for promoting peace.

IMBALANCE IN INFORMATION EXCHANGE CONTRARY TO FINAL ACT

LD061904Y Moscow in Italian to Italy 2100 GMT 5 Oct 78 LD

[Mikhail Dobrov commentary: "Exchange of Information--On What Basis?]

[Text] The Helsinki Final Act contains an article which stipulates that cooperation in the field of information should contribute to consolidation of peace and understanding among peoples and to spiritual enrichment of the individual. This should be based on the principles which govern relations among the signatory states, the principles of sovereign equality, of noninterference in others' affairs, of respect for internal laws and for the administrative norms of partners.

For Soviet news organs and journalists, the Helsinki conference resolutions represent a point of reference in the extension of their international connections.

The number of foreign correspondents accredited to the USSR has increased since Helsinki; the sales of Western newspapers and magazines have multiplied; more films and television documentaries have been shown. But previously, and according to UNESCO figures, the Soviet public also saw a number of Western films, which was three times greater than the number of Soviet films shown to the public in the West.

PRAVDA and several other papers have created special features in which they regularly publish articles by Soviet and foreign journalists, statesmen and public figures, on fulfillment of the Helsinki agreements.

In the West it is a very different matter. In the last 2 or 3 years there has been a sudden surge of anticommunist propaganda. Attacks are made against the socialist countries; a massive campaign of interference in their internal affairs has been launched under the demagogic slogan of defense of human rights. The false uproar about the Soviet threat has been raised.

But these attacks are also aimed at the Final Act, contents of which were not brought to the attention of broad public opinion. It is notable that in English the text of the Final Act was published to the tune of just over 10,000 copies. English papers refused to publish the document. In the USSR by comparison, in addition to the newspapers, it was published in a special pamphlet, with an aggregate publishing total of about 20,000 copies.

Is it realistic to claim, under present circumstances, that all Western news and publications should be freely distributed and sold in the USSR? We immediately reply no. One reason for this is that for each of us there exist laws prohibiting the spreading of a certain type of news--the propaganda of the war of racial superiority, of the humiliation of human dignity and of amoral phenomena.

On the other hand, our state and public bodies will never allow the spreading of hostile and slanderous information, which is directed at weakening the socialist regime and at creating artificial opposition. This attitude fully conforms with international documents, recognized by all, and among others, in the international pact on civil and political rights approved by the United Nations, Article 19, covering the limitation of information in cases of necessity: A. To protect the rights and prestige of others; and B. To defend national security and public order, the health and moral welfare of the people.

The USSR does a great deal, perhaps more than other states, to inform its people about the life of other peoples, and of international politics.

ZA RUBEZHOM, the weekly publication of the USSR Journalists' Union, printed in more than 1 million copies, is totally devoted to presenting Soviet readers with information published by foreign news organs, and it has no equivalent in the world. No country publishes as many foreign books as we do. Let us cite one example: During the Soviet period in our country 4,000 books by 341 English authors have been published, with an aggregate publishing total of more than 220 million copies. In no other country do newspapers devote so much space to international problems as the major Soviet periodicals do and as USSR television does.

But this information should serve reciprocal understanding and not foment hatred among the peoples. It should contribute to their spiritual enrichment and not to disinformation. This corresponds perfectly to the Helsinki Final Act, which envisages the extension of exchange of information solely for noble ends and not for subversive ones.

It is impossible for political detente to progress in parallel with the arms race, and it is just as impossible for understanding and trust among peoples to be consolidated under conditions in which a substantial part of Western mass media continues its subversive activity and the psychological war.

CSSR DELEGATE TO MBFR CITES EAST'S 'FLEXIBLE' STANCE

LD021605Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Sep 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Correspondent K. Perevoshchikov dispatch: "Vienna Talks Resumed"]

[Text] Vienna--The talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe have resumed in the Reboubt Hall of Vienna's Hofburg Palace. The 179th plenary session was addressed on behalf of the socialist countries by E. Keblusek, head of the Czechoslovak delegation. After the conference Ambassador Keblusek held a press conference at which he set forth the socialist countries' position. He pointed out, in particular, that the socialist countries' delegations pursue the aim of consolidating the results achieved and shifting the talks to elaboration of specific agreements. For this it is necessary, above all, to agree on the general basis of the future agreement. The socialist countries' new proposals submitted 8 June this year could serve as this basis. The Western delegations themselves acknowledge that these proposals have considerable potential significance for elaborating the future agreement. Ambassador Keblusek emphasized that the socialist countries' delegations take a flexible stand at the talks and are prepared to consider attentively all constructive ideas from the Western partners. The stand of the socialist countries inspires hope that a basis will be found for a specific agreement on the mutual reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe if the Western countries take an equally constructive stand.

GROMYKO DISCUSSES UNGA SESSION, TALKS WITH U.S. LEADERS

LD061450Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0825 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Interview granted by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko to unspecified interviewer--live or recorded--date and place not specified; Moscow TASS English at 1730 GMT on 6 October states interview was on Central Television on 6 October]

[Text] [Question] Good morning, comrades. I would first of all like to thank you, Andrey Andreyevich, for having, despite your broad commitments, found time to grant us this interview. You have just returned from the United States, where you headed the Soviet delegation to the 33d session of the UN General Assembly. The international public has welcomed with great attention the Soviet Union's proposals, which you put forward on behalf of our country from the high rostrum of the United Nations. What do you believe to be fundamental and most important in these proposals?

[Answer] I would like to say first of all that the Soviet delegation arrived at the General Assembly with precise and clear directives from our Central Committee, the Central Committee Politburo and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally. At the heart of these directives lies the orientation toward peace and international detente, toward the development of good relations between states. When a delegation is provided with such a directive it feels confident and finds it easy to work in such conditions.

I think that what I said about the Soviet delegation can also be said concerning the delegations of the other fraternal parties and socialist countries. They have always assumed and are now assuming at the present session of the General Assembly the same position on international problems that is held by the Soviet delegation, expressing the will of our country, our party and our people. In a word we can say that at this General Assembly session we are going hand in hand, in one front, defending the cause of peace among peoples.

It is well known that our country plans an outstanding role in the international arena in the cause of the struggle for detente. This is a brief formula, but it is a formula that is very rich in content. At this General Assembly session like all previous sessions, the policy of detente is being pursued by us clearly and persistently, and I have to say that it is receiving the widest support.

At the General Assembly, on making statements about the policy of their countries and governments, the delegations express opinions on the main international questions. They also express many opinions concerning our policy, the policy of the Soviet Union. I have to stress most resolutely that our policy in international affairs enjoys wide support and immense respect among other states and peoples.

When you can feel such riches in your hands, such prestige, it is really not difficult to work at any international forum, including such a broad international forum as the UN General Assembly. It is interesting that no less than 150 states are now members of that organization.

That is how I would answer the first part of your question. But that is not an exhaustive answer. If one looks more deeply into the problems that face the General Assembly, one must say that the majority of the most topical problems have been proposed by our country, or jointly by the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries. We have put forward many ideas and proposals on ending the arms race and on disarmament. Indeed, a while ago there was a special session on these questions, where on the whole not a bad document was adopted--a document that reflects the basic ideas and proposals expressed by us at the special session of the General Assembly. Notwithstanding the documents or decisions of the special session of the assembly, the arms race continues. Therefore, at the present General Assembly session we have again with all firmness, and, I would say, sharpness, raised the question of the necessity of transferring the good ideas, proposals and decisions of the General Assembly's special session into practical actions: In other words, of translating all this into the language of practical politics and of specific steps by states.

Therefore, at the present session of the General Assembly we have also put forward a whole group of proposals concerning both nuclear and conventional arms and many problems of international life.

For instance: We raised the issue of the need to conclude an international agreement or convention providing guarantees to the nonnuclear countries, which neither produce these weapons themselves nor obtain them from others. We think--this is the opinion of our Central Committee, of the Politburo--that if such an agreement were concluded, if the General Assembly adopted the corresponding decision on the matter, then this would infuse a strong, serious and positive spirit into international life. It would contribute to the intensification of detente, to an improvement of the atmosphere in the world. I must note with satisfaction that the overwhelming majority of states--through their delegations, their representatives at the General Assembly, of course--adopted a positive attitude toward this Soviet initiative, which is essentially an initiative of all the socialist states, which take a peace-loving Marxist-Leninist stand in international affairs.

I repeat: The overwhelming majority of countries support our initiative. There are states that remain silent, or make positive statements during personal meetings on our proposal, but which as yet have not expressed their attitude in public. I think it would be right to say that a considerable number of these states are in varying degrees dependent either on the United States or on its allies in NATO. This is why they keep looking to these states to see what their attitude is on a particular statement concerning the Soviet proposal. Only individual delegations, a handful, opposed it. These delegations are also actively working, if one may express it this way, behind-the-scenes to see if some delegations, consequently some countries, could be dissuaded from supporting the Soviet proposal. We do not think that they will have considerable success. After all, the peace-loving essence of this Soviet proposal is becoming increasingly obvious and it will make a path for itself. We are rather optimistic about the prospect for the outcome of the discussion on our proposal.

We have proposed that this matter be placed on the General Assembly agenda as an independent question. This means discussing it in full, not mixing it with other questions. Although, all questions relating to the problem of curtailing the arms race and of disarmament are to some extent linked with one another. Nevertheless, each question has an independent significance.

Although we do not demand that it be included as an independent question, we still submitted a separate proposal concerning the question of concluding a relevant agreement on the nonproliferation of nuclear arms to those countries that do not now possess these nuclear arms.

Would it be bad if nuclear arms did not expand beyond the territories where they already exist? This would also be a positive phenomenon for international life. It would promote detente; it would promote an improvement in the international atmosphere. Like the first proposal, it is aimed at inspiring in the minds and hearts of people confidence in their future, confidence that they are going to live in peace and that they need not expect any sort of tragedy or military clash. Concerning this most acute problem of disarmament, which is of worldwide significance, I would like to dwell on one or two more questions that we have singled out before and that we singled out at the present General Assembly session as questions of exceptional importance.

The first of these two questions is the question of military budgets. It would seem to be a simple matter, to reduce the arms race in some other areas or even better to cease that race.

But it is easier to reduce military budgets. For military budgets are earmarked for the production of various types of arms; nuclear, conventional, and so on. Often certain governments put the question this way: You see, before reducing arms that are already in production, one must first organize control of these works located in the corresponding regions, bases, and so on. But this makes the cessation of the arms race exceptionally complicated, when such a preliminary condition is made. As a matter of fact this preliminary condition is made to keep from ending the arms race.

It is much simpler to agree on the reduction of military budgets; and of course above all on the military budgets of large states--states which have a large military potential. It would seem that it is not a complex affair, in any case much simpler than other ways of reducing arms and of halting the arms race. In response to our proposals they have told us--moreover not only nowadays but over, I would say, an extensive period: "Can't you see? The structures of the budgets of states are not the same. One state has expenditures for such and such a type of armament in one column; another state has expenditures for arms in another column together with expenditures for other types of armaments. A third state somehow also differs in another respect in the structures of its budget."

And so what do we get? Neither more nor less than to begin to study the structure of a budget by creating almost special establishments and institutes, and occupying hundreds and thousands of people in doing this. Therefore, they say directly that it is necessary to study and to devote a long period of study to all of this matter.

It is clear that each sober-minded person, if, of course, he is acting honestly, immediately understands that this type of proposal, for a study, is simply a means of avoiding the essence of the question, of avoiding a reduction of military budgets. If one now looks at the military budgets, there are no special secrets. They are widely published. If one looks at these military budgets, even in the small countries that naturally have small armed forces, then the expenditures for the production of arms or for the purchase of manufactured arms from other countries take a very large share. How many establishments for children, hospitals and schools could be built? To what advantage could the savings from cutting military budgets be put to enhance the well-being of people, improve medical services and develop science and culture? And, finally, simply in the struggle against hunger?

For it is precisely the United Nations that each year publishes very interesting and sufficiently thick guidebooks relating to the material situation of all countries. In certain regions, I would like to say, and every person who is acquainted with this matter will probably agree, that tens and hundreds of millions of people go hungry and die from starvation.

For it is a fact that when a drought occurs in a country or region--say, in Africa, and such phenomena have occured during the last few years--the people do not have any means for sustaining life. People perish. The Soviet Union, as much as it could, aided certain countries, for which it received their gratitude.

This very question of cutting military budgets would seem to be a simple one. Among the major and acute questions this one is probably the simplest. However, it is systematically postponed and not resolved. Certain governments simply obstruct--and I am not afraid of confirming this word--this question.

However, this should not discourage us. Today, as before, we shall firmly advocate the need to cut military budgets. Is it difficult to agree on some percentage? Say 5, 7, 10 or 15 percent? It would be possible to agree on some absolute figures, providing they are more or less equal.

Of course, it would be bad if one developed state cuts its military budget by 1, 2 or 3 billion and another developed state cuts it by 100 million or 50 million. This, to put it mildly, would be dishonest and unseemly. In this case, the reduction must be by more or less equal quantities. This is simpler. What need is there for study? Why do we need some sort of institutes? Why do we need some sort of sinecures for hundreds and thousands of officials? There is no need for any of this. To achieve agreement on the reduction of military budgets, we need the will of politicians who shape policy, and that is all we need. If this decision were made, I think that one may say with all justification that the whole world would applaud it.

The other question would also seem simple and not so complicated if an honorable and consistent policy, free of any guile, is pursued. This is the question of reducing armed forces and arms in central Europe. Strictly speaking, this question has not been on the agenda for a long time, but willy-nilly, in so far as it is not being solved, states are posing it.

We ourselves continue to talk about this theme at this broad international forum, the General Assembly. The Vienna talks, where this question is being discussed, have so far not yielded any practical results. The talks have not yielded results because our Western partners have so far not displayed the desire to reach an agreement. To be more precise, one may put it thus: They are ready to conclude an agreement, but one that would harm us, the East European, socialist states, including the Soviet Union, and would give an advantage to our Western participants, including the United States, which has its armed forces and large number of weapons in Western Europe. But the socialist countries, particularly the Soviet Union, cannot contemplate such a solution. We call for not changing the correlation of armed forces between the two groups of states participating in the Vienna talks, but for lowering the levels in equal proportions.

I repeat, we should not change the correlation and consequently not change the degree of security of both groups of states. On the contrary, we should reduce the absolute levels. And this is what is needed--if we reduce the absolute levels, this will entail lower expenditure and, in addition, will help move us toward detente. Eventually there will be strong detente in central Europe--we can say this in the most genuine physical sense of the word. It is well known that central Europe is a complex, nerve center for the rest of Europe.

We have the distinct impression that the majority of the participants at the assembly, where this problem is being raised--we talk about it and refer to this theme--sympathize with the stand of the socialist states. But to achieve an accord requires agreement with the NATO states; while not all of them participate in these talks, a considerable proportion of them do take part, and agreement is required. Now, it is difficult to say whether there is going to be progress shortly, or whether there will not be a corresponding continuation, a corresponding agreement. The talks will continue, this much can be said. As for agreement, the situation is less clear.

Incidentally, we put forward our latest proposal to the Western countries as long as 3 months ago. We have not received a reply. The fact that we have not had a reply for 3 months is not accidental. It means that our partners intend--apart from everything else--to draw these talks out. It is evident that they--at least some of our partners--need the talks to, as we say, let the steam out of the boiler. We stand for serious talks. We have enough patience to conduct talks on this problem, but what the result will be, and when, is very difficult to say, at least for the foreseeable future.

To sum up briefly my answer to your first question, I would say this. By now, nearly all the states have made policy statements, and by the time we left New York, about 2/3 of the states had spoken--the debate is interesting. The overwhelming majority of those who have spoken at the General Assembly have supported the orientation toward detente, toward peace.

The General Assembly is not an accurate mirror of public opinion. It does not always accurately reflect it. But for the most part, it reflects public opinion, people's mood, what is in their hearts, and its statements mostly favor detente, peace and averting a new world war. This is good.

[Question] Thank you, Andrey Andreyevich. The second question generally concerns your stay in the United States. You have had important talks with the leaders of that country. What could you say about the basic trends of the talks and about the atmosphere in which they took place?

[Answer] Your question is formulated in such a way that it would seem better to answer it in a general way. The atmosphere during the talks was businesslike: We, as they say, [Gromyko laughs] were not banging our fists on the table. There was no need for this. The necessary, accepted and correct procedure was maintained. But the talk was of a principled nature. When there is principled talk in political discussions, there are all sorts of points [momenty]. Both sides frankly expressed their positions on the fundamental problems that face the world, on the fundamental questions of war and peace. On behalf of the Soviet Union, our Central Committee, the Politburo, and on behalf of Leonid Ilich, especially during the talk about this with President Carter, we stated the position clearly and with all directness: To be precise, it was stated that we stand for detente, for peace and for good relations with the United States. If the United States pursues the same policy, there will be good relations between our countries, and the entire world will breathe freely if such relations are established. We of course drew the attention of both President Carter and U.S. Secretary of State Vance and of other U.S. leaders whom we met to the fact that it is not our fault that there has recently been a chill in relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, to say the least. No one has suggested a scale by which this chill could be measured.

Briefly stated, an unsatisfactory situation has developed during the latest period. And we spelled out quite bluntly whose fault it was in our opinion. We said: It is not our fault; it is the United States' fault.

We quoted concrete examples confirming this premise. They said in reply: Maybe it would be best not to go into the past but to look ahead. It is, of course, possible to do this, but in order to look ahead hopefully and confidently it is useful to draw lessons from the past: to see what is good and should be used in the future and what is bad and should be ruled out. That is why--although we find the appeal to look only ahead understandable [Gromyko laughs slightly]--nevertheless we also understand that you cannot put up an insulating wall between the past and the future.

But naturally, while discussing who was to blame for the set back in our relations with the United States, we also discussed how to act from now on. And we examined the corresponding problems. We examined some problems in some detail and in depth. I must note...[interviewer interrupts]

[Question] Andrey Andreyevich, I wonder if I can spell out my previous question more specifically: Did your conversations also touch upon the problems of the Near East and the decisions adopted recently at Camp David?

[Answer] Yes, they did: They could not have failed to do so, if for no other reason than because the conference at Camp David ended during our stay at the General Assembly. When it had ended, an intensive, noisy propaganda campaign started; but this was done rather deliberately and artificially. They began to extol the results of the conference in every possible way--but who did the extolling? U.S. officials, the Egyptian president, the Israeli prime minister, the American press--and very, very cautiously, representatives of other states, apart from some representatives of the NATO countries.

The Soviet Union condemned the results of the Camp David conference at the General Assembly, in the main public statement of the Soviet delegation, and in conversations with the leaders of the delegations of other countries and other representatives of these countries.

Why did we condemn them? First, because the countries and forces that should have taken part had been pushed aside and did not participate in this conference.

Second because the decisions made there do not meet the requirements for establishing a just and stable peace in the Near East. They do not meet these aims.

The agreement on the Sinai Peninsula is being exalted in every way. What kind of an accord is this? It is said that Egypt has allegedly received sovereignty over the Sinai. It has not received any sovereignty whatsoever. It cannot dispose of this territory, the Sinai Peninsula, as it sees fit. Egypt cannot station any armed forces on a greater part of it. On another part, it can have only one division.

Regarding the West Bank of the Jordan, an area that previously belonged to Jordan, Israeli troops will remain there.

The interests of the Palestinians, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and of the Palestinian Arabs--first of all the demand for the creation of their own national state, albeit a small one--have not been taken into account at all. This means that this territory actually remains under Israel's occupation. No government that approaches the appraisal of this conference more or less objectively can admit that these decisions have a positive significance. We, the Soviet Union, condemn these decisions. We have stated this to the U.S. Government, President Carter and Secretary of State Vance personally. The same has been done by the representatives of other socialist states, which are pursuing an identical policy. Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's recent statement in Baku is known to everyone. It gives a profound and brilliant description of the nature of this collusion in Camp David. We have no doubt that this fully corresponds with reality, i.e., that the issue has not been solved.

We have not changed our attitude toward Israel. We believe that Israel, like all the states in the Near East, has the right to exist as a sovereign and independent state. Our position remains fully in force. If Israel were to adopt reasonable positions in the matter of a Near East settlement and were it to ask for international guarantees for its security and its sovereignty, the Soviet Union would participate in any solemn international agreement guaranteeing Israel's sovereignty and independence.

However, the Israeli leaders apparently want something different. They want foreign teritories. Obviously, our public has been informed on the Arab states' attitude toward this collusion, namely of Syria, Algeria, Libya, Iraq, South Yemen, the PLO and, finally, Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

We can now say with confidence that the participants in the conference in Camp David have not received support from the states of this region. Egypt is now isolated in its policy. Regardless of the smart words of some persons, in reality Egypt's (?position in this matter is weak). We are sure that the future will demonstrate the weakness of the Camp David collusion.

[Question] Andrey Andreyevich, it is known that you discussed the problem of limiting strategic arms with U.S. President Carter, Secretary of State Vance and other U.S. statesmen. How do you evaluate the talks on this question?

[Answer] I would like to say that this is a very large topic; it needs time, and naturally I will not dwell at length on this. However, it should be said that most of our talks were devoted to this topic. More time was devoted to this question than to any other question during the talks with the U.S. statesmen--and first and foremost, with President Carter.

If one were to speak briefly about this, what could one say? One can say that the talks were most intensive and useful. There has been certain progress in the U.S. stand in the necessary, correct direction. However, it is not sufficient enough for us to say that the questions have already been settled. Besides, it is necessary to stress that the talks have now reached the stage on this question--on the possibility of concluding a new agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms--when one question is linked with another, and a second question with a third, and a third one with a fourth one. All of the questions are closely linked and should be discussed only in context with each other. One should not settle certain questions separately and reach an agreement on them. It is difficult to explain this briefly. However, this is the situation: On the one hand, this complicates the talks but, on the other hand, this is necessary to solve issues in this way. We shall see what the immediate future will show us. The next meeting will apparently [vidimo] take place soon at the foreign minister level to continue the talks.

President Carter said that he and the U.S. Government are firmly in favor of the need to conclude an agreement. This time he repeated this thought several times and tried to do his utmost to impress upon us the firmness of the U.S. stand on this issue.

I cannot say that there are no forces in the United States that still oppose an agreement. There are such forces, and we have clearly noticed that even during the talks, individual voices were heard from time to time expressing themselves to the effect that it was not yet known whether it was necessary to hasten or not hasten the talks. Therefore, I would like to express the hope that firstly, President Carter and the U.S. Government will stand firmly on those positions that were stated in the talks with us, and secondly, that the realistic and more considered U.S. position on the talks on the possibility of concluding a new strategic arms limitation agreement will gain a definite upper hand and will win out. By the way, President Carter added to what had been said and expressed himself in such a way that he was confident that in the end Congress would approve--that is ratify--the agreement when it is signed. In this connection, President Carter again expressed the wish to meet with Leonid Ilich Brezhnev--a wish that had also been expressed earlier.

From our side, and in agreement with Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, it was stated that Leonid Ilich was prepared to meet President Carter, if of course the relevant documents had been prepared, primarily the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty. A meeting makes it necessary that something considerable and important be confirmed and signed.

The meeting should also end as an important step toward deepening detente and toward peace, so that after it both leaders of the world's major states should, figuratively speaking, go out into the street and tell the world: see, we have agreed on such a step.

In reply to this the President said that he agreed with the idea that the meeting should be well prepared. Regarding Leonid Ilich's readiness to meet with him, he, on the whole, assumed that he would receive an agreement to this, and he did receive such agreement.

[Question] Last question: How do you, esteemed Andrey Andreyevich, assess the prospects for the development of Soviet-American relations in light of their present state?

[Answer] This is, of course, a continuation of the first question, but it is quite possible to divide the question into two parts. I will speak briefly about these prospects. The Soviet Union favors good relations with the United States. Its point of departure is that peace between the Soviet Union and the United States will mean peace for the entire world. Peace between the Soviet Union and America means that a third world war must not be allowed. This stand was fixed in the decisions of our party congresses, including the 25th congress; it was fixed in the decisions of the Central Committee plenum. The Politburo is working on it continuously and tirelessly. Leonid Ilich Brezhnev invariably follows this thought in his speeches in which he deals with foreign policy problems. Incidentally, they hang on his every word abroad; they know the weight of these words. This is true not only in the General Assembly, but it has been observed in the course of duty, as they say, in many countries and in various circumstances. So we can confidently say on our own behalf that we will persist in this stand. The Soviet Union will continue to support the position of peace and detente following a principled political course. We will let no one offend us. We will allow no one to interfere in our domestic affairs. We respect the lawful interests of other states. We demand that our interests be respected, too. But we cannot take responsibility for the other side. I have already said that it would be good if the United States acted in the way the U.S. President has stated in his conversations with us.

If it is going to stand for peace, for detente, if it is going to adopt a more considered, realistic and reasonable stand on the issues of ending the arms race, and even more of disarmament, then this is what the people need, what they expect of the leaders of states and, obviously, first and foremost of the leadership of the Soviet Union and the United States.

I will, perhaps, conclude by answer to your last question with this.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD081624Y Moscow International Service in Russian 0730 GMT 8 Oct 78 LD

[Weekly "International Observers Roundtable" program with Aleksandr Druzhinin, political observer of All-Union Radio and Central Television; Mikhail Mikhaylov, IZVESTIYA observer; and Vadim Nekrasov, observer of KOMMUNIST]

Aftermath of Camp David

[Text] [Druzhinin] Good morning comrade radio listeners. Among the varied international events of our times, there are those that attract particular attention and cause particular alarm among the widest circles of the world's public. This is true of the Near East, this explosively dangerous region that has remained a source of acute military conflicts for many years.

It is because of this that we would like to begin this morning's talk with an analysis of the problems in the Near East. Without predetermining the development of our discussion, I would like to say that the recent meeting at Camp David, the separate deal reached by its participants, has drawn these problems into an even tighter knot of contradictions. However, its organizers in the West are trying to present the results of the meeting as a triumph. But the fact remains that another step has been taken away from the main road to a Near East settlement. In the agreements signed at Camp David, the most important, fundamental question, which must be solved or any stable and long-lasting peace in the near east is unthinkable, have been consciously put aside. Meanwhile, the way to reach a Near East settlement remains open.

This has once again been firmly stated in Moscow, during the talks between the Soviet leaders and the general secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, president of the Syrian Arab Republic, Hafiz al-Asad.

[Mikhaylov] The past week has been marked by the beginning of a new, important stage in the Arab's struggle against the imperialist plot, which is clothed in the garb of the separate deal at Camp David. This just struggle has been given a new stimulus. In Damascus, the participants in the National Front of Steadfastness, composed of a number of Arab states and the PLO, have stated that they place particular significance on strengthening relations with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

The official visit to the Soviet Union by President al-Asad, following his stay in the GDR, has convincingly demonstrated that our country is a faithful friend of the Arabs, that its principled policy of defending their interests is unchanging and dynamic. The principles of this policy, as well as a detailed description of the current crucial moment in the development of the situation in the Near East, were highlighted in the speech by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev in the Great Kremlin Palace on 5 October.

One ought to say that the imperialists and their henchmen as yet have been unable to find a single Arab country that openly approves of the Camp David useless scraps of paper. Palestinian politicians, including the mayors of the Israeli-occupied West Bank of the Jordan, have openly rejected the deal. Finally, in Egypt itself, it is obvious that As-Sadat does not feel he is on firm ground, something that has been proven by the reshuffle that he has made in the composition of the government.

Brzezinski, the president's assistant for national security affairs and Washington's emissary, has gone to West Europe. According to the reports on his talks in Paris, London and Bonn, he has found, by and large, a reserved attitude. The delegates to the UN General Assembly session have made statements that frankly condemn the Camp David deal.

In the meantime, the plotters are hurrying. On 12 October, Israeli-Egyptian talks are due to start in Washington on the drafting of a so-called peace treaty between the two countries. Rumors are being purposely circulated that the treaty will be signed on Mount Sinai in the presence of the U.S. President on 19 November, the anniversary of As-Sadat's trip to Jerusalem. The aim of this feverish rush is to consolidate the deal at Camp David and to convince the world that a settlement of the situation in the Near East has begun and will continue. The organizers of the separate deal are acting as if, apart from Egypt, whose leadership is meekly bowing to the American-Israeli dictates, there are no other Arab countries.

But the Arabs are not pawns in the game, they are the creators of their own fate. Without them, on their behalf, and contrary to their lawful rights and interests, it is impossible to ensure a stable settlement to the conflict in the Near East.

[Nekrasov] I would like to add to what you have already said, Mikhail Aleksandrovich, one more detail, a very typical one I think. While this diplomatic carousel is going on, the Israeli-Egyptian quarrel over the contents of the agreements continues and to some extent is growing. I mean the problem of the Israeli settlements on occupied territories, which demonstrates the whole fragility and ambiguity of those same agreements.

[Mikhaylov] Vadim Nikolayevich, it is interesting to note that Washington is also fence-sitting. One cannot even discover whether it is supporting As-Sadat or Begin.

[Nekrasov] This attitude is for the benefit of the public. Somewhere, behind the scenes, these questions have been largely predetermined; but one has to play at democracy, one has to play at peacemaking for the public. Recently, I came across a somewhat interesting remark in one of the foreign papers. Talking about the advertising rumpus over the success of the Camp David meeting, which seemingly has ensured peace in the Near East, this paper recalled the events of 40 years ago. In the last days of September, 1938, the prime minister of Great Britain, Neville Chamberlain, returned from the Munich meeting with Hitler and Mussolini solemnly declaring that he had brought peace with him for a whole generation. However, it was only 1 year later that World War II began, in September 1939.

You must understand me correctly comrades, in the present instance there can be no question of any direct analogy. Times today are different, and the peace-loving forces headed by the Soviet Union have grown immeasurably and are placing a powerful barrier [zaslon] on the path to any military adventures. The Near East events themselves are, by their scale and character, somewhat different from those earlier events. However, one cannot rid oneself of the hint of some kind of similarity of spirit between these two events.

When the Washington POST, for example, writes that the unseen fourth participant in the meeting at Camp David, apart from Carter, As-Sadat and Begin, was anti-Sovietism, which, it says, helped in reaching an agreement, then such an analogy does not seem to be unfounded. The same can be said of the arguments of the U.S. emissaries who are touring the Near Eastern countries and who are urging other Arab states to support As-Sadat's position. They are using the argument that the chief threat to their interests is represented not by the Israeli rulers, but the Soviet Union.

Pardon me, Mikhail Aleksandrovich, I have strayed somewhat from a direct summary of the events.

[Mikhaylov] No, no. I do not consider that to be a diversion, because Camp David has created favorable circumstances solely for one side, the Israeli aggressor, and any euphoria over that deal, like what is being written in America, will gradually and inescapably wear off. Meanwhile, the people of the world know that the indispensable and obligatory conditions for a settlement in the Near East are the withdrawal of Israel from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, the ensurement of the lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including the creation of their own state, and the granting of the strictest international--and I stress international--guarantees of security to all states in that region without exception.

In addition, there is an appropriate mechanism for solving cardinal questions of an all-embracing Near East settlement. The Geneva conference was created especially for this purpose after all. If, as Comrade Brezhnev firmly and clearly stated, there is a tendency in Washington to forget about the Geneva conference, about the fact that it has two cochairmen, the Soviet Union and the United States, with all the ensuing obligations and rights, then we remember it well and will act accordingly.

One must say in conclusion, as it has been once again confirmed by the Soviet-Syrian summit talks, that the Soviet Union, Syria and other progressive Arab countries are united in the struggle against the intrigues of imperialism and reaction. This joint struggle for peace, freedom and independence is a strategic part of our common policy.

Fighting in Lebanon

[Druzhinin] Mikhail Aleksandrovich, the greatest tension in the Near East now exists in Lebanon. What can one say about the events in that country?

[Mikhaylov] Well, if one were not to look at the practical side of the matter, but the reasons for these events, then they consist of the fact that the rightwing forces, particularly the Shamunists--named after the leader of the National Liberal Party, Sham'un--are aiming toward creating chaos in the country. And they are doing this in direct contact with the Israeli military.

Israel generously supplies the reactionaries with arms and ammunition, and secret plans for training detachments of rightwing Phalangists in Israel have been published in the press.

If we examine all these at first sight unconnected, facts, a definite imperialist plan can be discerned. U.S. officials are gradually revealing that plan. It amounts to the intention to convene an international conference on Lebanon. The official aim is to promote the establishment of peace in Lebanon, but the real object is to prevent this by continuing to support the rightwing forces. Typically, the Lebanese Government has not requested such a conference. Syria has resolutely rejected the plan in answer to the blackmail of U.S. Secretary of State Vance, who paid a short visit to Damascus. Under these circumstances, the plan to call an international conference on Lebanon takes on a quite definite coloring. The Syrian paper TISHRIN writes, and I quote: America is preparing a new Camp David in Lebanon. I repeat that these proposals emanating from Washington not only cannot bring peace to Lebanon, but, on the contrary, can only make the situation in that country still worse and are harming the general Arab world.

SALT Prospects

[Druzhinin] I would like to return to the thought that Vadim Nikolayevich expressed when we were discussing reactions to the decisions at Camp David.

[Nekrasov] Yes, indeed, it is difficult not to agree that there was an invisible fourth participant at that trilateral meeting: anti-Sovietism. And not only there. Unfortunately, many of Washington's foreign policy actions still smell of anti-Sovietism. For instance, the propaganda fuss over the so-called Soviet military threat continues unabated. Still under the pretext of obviously far-fetched assertions about the growth of Soviet military might, certain U.S. circles are trying to delay the settlement of a very important problem like disarmament.

The Soviet initiative on disarmament is at the focus of attention of the participants of the 33d session of the UN General Assembly. The Soviet approach to this problem is an integrated one. The Soviet proposals cover practically all aspects of the question, with special priority given to nuclear disarmament, since nuclear arms are the most terrible weapons of mass destruction. The Soviet proposals are receiving the understanding and support of the great majority of the UN members. And if this initiative--which is, effectively, the initiative of all the socialist states--is still encountering difficulties and obstacles to its implementation, then there can be only one explanation: the position adopted by certain states.

In his talk on Soviet television, the USSR Foreign Minister, Comrade Gromyko, stressed that a considerable number of those states are countries that are, to one degree or another, dependent either on the United States or on America's allies in NATO. They don't risk opposing the Soviet initiative publicly. It is difficult to do so today, when the sidest circles of the world public are persistently supporting disarmament. But in their actions, they keep one eye on the United States and its partners, thus objectively making it more difficult to solve the highly important problems of containing the arms race.

The position taken by the U.S. opponents of disarmament also remains a serious obstruction to solving so important a problem as limitation of strategic offensive arms. Recently, this problem has once again become the object of serious discussion--among USSR Foreign Minister Gromyko, President Carter and other leaders of U.S. foreign policy. As we now know, the talks were useful. The U.S. position has undergone some changes in the necessary and correct direction. At the talks the American side gave an assurance that the U.S. Government stands firm on the necessity of concluding an agreement. A further meeting at the foreign minister level will evidently soon be held to continue the talks. In a word, let us wait and see.

When one reads the present optimistic commentaries by the U.S. observers on the Soviet-American talks in New York and Washington; when one sees, in the pages of American newspapers, predictions that a second-stage SALT agreement will soon be signed, one can't help thinking that the forces opposing such an agreement are still active and influential. They are unceasing in their attempts to prevent congressional ratification of the future agreement. Literally not a week passes without the appearance of various sorts of documents that purport to give evidence of Soviet military superiority, or without demands that the United States extract maximum military advantages from the future strategic arms limitation agreement.

But the greatest danger to the cause of restraining the arms race is posed, of course, not so much by these provocative verbal declarations as by the concrete actions of the Pentagon, which, under the cover of arguments about the imaginary Soviet threat, continue to build up its arsenals of the latest and most barbarous weapons of mass destruction.

Reports from Washington concerning the production of neutron weapons show just how dangerous are the activities of the American hawks. Literally on the day after the State Department had denied reports that the White House had decided to abolish the postponement of a decision on the neutron bomb, the U.S. Senate passed a bill allocating funds for, among other new arms systems, enhanced-radiation weapons, as the neutron bomb has been coyly named. It seems that the right hand, the White House, doesn't know what the left, the Senate, is doing. That can hardly be the case in reality. Rather, it's a question of the distribution of roles. The need for this maneuver evidently arises because literally the whole world has been swept by protests against the plans to create a new and barbarous weapon of mass destruction.

A recently published CIA report on Soviet propaganda naturally attributes those protests to Moscow, which is said to have discredited the neutron bomb. Well, the Soviet leadership and the Soviet people do, indeed, resolutely oppose neutron death; and that authoritative voice has been heeded in all countries. But the CIA report was not compiled to show the effectiveness of Soviet propaganda. Having noted this, it trots out the deliberate lie that the Soviet Union is discrediting the neutron bomb to gain military superiority over the United States.

The Soviet Union has never had such intentions, as shown once again by the Soviet proposal, addressed to the United States, on mutual renunciation of neutron weapons. It may be that the CIA's misinformation has helped to drag through the Senate the bill to open the way for the creation of an American neutron bomb; but as far as the wide public is concerned, the attempt to mislead has failed, as shown by mass protests in many countries against the U.S. Senate's decision.

[Druzhinin] Undoubtedly, all these maneuvers directed toward the further stirring up of the arms race create formidable difficulties for the normal development of American-Soviet cooperation in the interests of both countries, in the interests of detente and world peace. And yet, despite the attempts of the enemies of that cooperation to wreck the establishment of Soviet-American relations--attempts that become fiercer as the prospects for the solution of a number of important problems become better--analysis of the tendencies of American political life shows that more and more Americans--politicians, businessmen, academics and those customarily known as rank-and-file Americans--favor developing comprehensive contacts between our two countries and reject the politics of confrontation.

Several prominent U.S. senators, such as Mathias, Sparkman and Kennedy--have recently spoken in defense of the SALT agreement. The SALT talks may be a step toward a genuine limitation of arms, Senator John Sparkman, for example, has said. And of course, one must not ignore the public opinion polls, which are very popular in the United States. According to the polls, 75 percent of Americans favor the quick conclusion of a Soviet-American SALT agreement, and only 15 are against it. According to another poll, 62 per cent of Americans, against 26 per cent, see as harmful the attempts of the Washington administration to make difficulties for Soviet-American relations by linking them with a problem such as the defense of human rights. More and more people in the United States are demanding the removal of the far fetched demagogic obstacles that have been erected in the path of Soviet-American cooperation. They favor, in particular, ending the slanderous campaign in defense of so-called human rights in the socialist countries, which remains one of the main tools in the hands of certain circles in Washington for undermining international detente.

Human Rights Theories

[Nekrasov] I would like to take a considerably broader view of this question. During the celebration of the first anniversary of the new Soviet Constitution, one would like to note that in the months that have elapsed, it has worked well not only in our country, but also in the international arena. I speak both of its foreign-policy section, with its stress on the unchanging peace-loving course of Soviet policy, and of questions of democracy and human rights.

It is precisely the all-round development of mankind, the fullest satisfaction of the increasing material and spiritual demands of people that are stated in the Soviet Constitution as our firm principle. In the past year, millions of people in various countries have had the opportunity to get to know the deeply democratic and humane nature of the Soviet Constitution and to create for themselves new ideas of the majestic tasks being solved by the Communist Party, in the name of man and for the good of man. And it is natural that they have compared the situation in the world of socialism and in the world of capitalism.

The organizers of the human rights campaign have been unable to avoid such a comparison, which works against these organizers. That is why they have started all sorts of twists and turns.

In the West it is very fashionable to say that we, allegedly, live in the age of the self-assertion of man. Talking of the self-assertion of the personality, people in the West now stress that this concerns man as such and does not refer to his group interests. What are group interests? This innocent looking formula is a cover for the quite definite interests of the dominant class. On the surface and formally, for those who take the bait of this demagogy, it is not important if you are unemployed or a millionarie. These are, they say, your group interests.

It is, of course, quite clear to any Soviet person, that hypocrisy lies behind such a propaganda approach, and that it is far from the realities of life in the capitalist world.

I would like to dwell on another aspect of this problem--the recent events in the small Central American republic of Nicaragua. Our listeners are familiar with what has been happening there from press reports. Thousands of patriots died because they struggled to secure for their people minimal possibilities for human existence and respect for human dignity. The patriots have now been forced to leave the towns and are continuing the struggle in the mountains and in rural areas. But on the whole it can be said that the night of black terror has come down on this republic, to some extent similar to what is happening in Chile or Uruguay.

And what was the position of official Washington, which has declared itself a champion of human rights? On 22 September, replying to questions about this from Latin American journalists, the U.S. President replied: We do not want to interfere in the affairs of a sovereign state. Well, we are not going to talk about the sovereignty of Nicaragua which the dictator Somoza has long since sold wholesale and retail to North American monopolies. But recalling the eloquent statements in favor of securing human rights throughout the world, for which the United States is allegedly ready to lay down its life, how are we to regard such a dereliction of duty?

I know that my question can be answered by our listeners and that we all understand the situation well. I just wanted to stress once again the whole falsity, all the hypocrisy of the statements about defense of human rights that certain leaders of Western policy engage in. Well, what can one say? As the poet Tvardovskiy said: Say no less, say no more.

[Druzhinin] This gives good cause for people throughout the world to say that in certain countries a new fascism is appearing.

Growth of Neofascism

[Nekrasov] Indeed, recently new facts have appeared about the revival of extreme right-wing neofascist forces in various capitalist countries, in many countries. They have decided to make their own use of the military hysteria being stirred up in these countries and in particular the false propaganda about the Soviet threat and even the false propaganda about imaginary violation of human rights in socialist countries.

It is not coincidence that international reaction is also counting on neofascists and other extremists in the struggle against the increasing influence of progressive forces and for the creation of an unstable situation in various countries. Here are some examples.

In Spain, the Madrid newspaper INFORMACION published a statement by an ultrarightist organization calling itself the Committee of Patriotic Justice, which stated that in the near future it would kill seven eminent politicians, including the head of government. These extreme rightwingers openly state that they wish to restore the fascist order that existed under the Caudillo.

In Italy, neofascists, whatever mask they may hide behind, are presumed to be responsible for the sequence of political murders. The just anger of all healthy political forces in the country is directed against the perpetrators. At the same time, it has been established that the Italian extremists have extensive international links, including links with the CIA. This is shown by the fact that when an extremist group was arrested in Milan, a large quantity of weapons, police uniforms, munitions, electronic equipment and false documents were found, which had been supplied from abroad.

In Austria, there has just been a congress of the so-called Austrian Freedom Party, whose program includes an article about the common nature of German people and culture--a very elastic formulation. The Austrian public and ruling circles resolutely oppose this relapse toward nationalism, which, in its time, led to the Anschluss with Hitler's Reich.

In Britain, the neofascists feel themselves so free that they formed their own organization, the National Front. At the forthcoming parliamentary elections it intends to put forward 300 candidates. They will run under openly racist slogans demanding the expulsion of colored immigrants from the British Isles.

Thus, Willy Brandt, the chairman of the Socialist International, had good reason to express alarm in his speech at the Congress of the Swedish Social Democratic Labor Party, regarding the increase in activity of rightwing parties in a number of Western countries. We are faced, Brandt stressed, with a black international that also includes such bellicose reactionaries as Strauss in the FRG and Thatcher, the leader of the British Conservatives.

[Druzhinin] The United States is no exception. One could cite many examples of how the neofascists are appearing in that country. But today I would like to limit myself to citing the statement of Congressman Hawkins, which was published in the Detroit weekly, MICHIGAN CHRONICLE. The new fascism, disguised as old-fashioned Americanism and preaching racism, has supporters in all areas of U.S. life, Congressman Hawkins writes. They are well organized and in the majority of cases from a common front to deprive national minorities of the possibility of enjoying human and civilrights. They are a threat to the security of all honest Americans. In our country, the congressman continues, one can also observe a dangerous tendency, whose final aim is to totally deprive the national minorities, women and the poor, of all economic, political and social rights stipulated in the Constitution. Hiding behind the striving to increase people's responsibility for their own fate, this new fascism reflects antidemocratic views, saying that the inequality of men and women is a real fact that must be taken into account.

This philosophy, Hawkins writes, is essencially not new. It was implemented in fascist Italy under Mussolini, in fascist Spain under Franco and in Nazi Germany under Hitler. Beware of these new fascists, the congressman warns Americans. They visit PTA meetings, they are members of your church community, they stand next to you at the factory conveyors, they work with you in establishments, they can even be found among the members of your family. They are a threat to the security of all Americans. Well, as the saying goes, there is nothing more to say.

[Nekrasov] Yes, one can say only that as these statements and the main facts show, neofascists have not disappeared. They are trying to work their way into all the chinks of the political system of the capitalist countries.

But in the West it is the common opinion that neofascism does not represent a danger and that there is no reason to exaggerate its importance. But this danger should not be underestimated either. Any manifestation of neofascist tendencies--whose bearers, moreover, juggle slogans about defense of freedom and democracy--requires the vigilance of all those who cherish the healthy changes that have taken place in the postwar world, especially in recent years when much has been done. But much more remains to be done to turn the policy of detente into an irreversible process.

[Druzhinin] With this, comrades, allow us to end our discussion today. Thank you for your attention. Goodbye.

UN FIRST COMMITTEE DISCUSSES USSR DISARMAMENT INITIATIVE

LD091202Y Moscow TASS in English 1136 GMT 9 Oct 78 LD

[Text] New York, October 9, TASS--The Soviet Union's initiatives directed at curbing the arms race and at disarmament are at the base of work of the First Committee of the U.N. General Assembly (for political and security issues). The committee adopted a decision to this effect at its meeting on the procedure of its work in the period of the 33rd session of the U.N. General Assembly.

The committee is to examine in particular the question of implementation of the recommendations and decisions of the recent special session on disarmament of the U.N. General Assembly, which were formulated in the Soviet document on practical ways for ending the arms race.

An important place in the agenda is held by the Soviet proposal that an international convention be concluded on strengthening security guarantees for non-nuclear states.

The committee sessions are also to examine such important initiatives as a ban on the use of chemical and bacteriological weapons, a general and complete ban on nuclear weapon tests, a ban on the development and production of new types and new systems of mass destruction weapons, a cutback in military budgets.

The committee will also examine the question of convocation of a world disarmament conference. On the agenda is also the question of implementing the declaration on strengthening international security. This important document has contributed to a considerable degree to stepping up the efforts of the international community directed at ensuring a lasting peace and security of peoples, consolidating the process of detente and preventing the threat of a new war.

ALBANIAN MINISTER'S UN SPEECH CRITICIZES PRC, USSR

LD052030Y Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1730 GMT 5 Oct 78 LD

[Text] At the General Assembly session, Nesti Nase, Albanian minister of foreign affairs, has criticized attempts by the Chinese leadership to impose its view on Albania. The minister described China's policy as chauvinist, great-state and deceitful. His speech also contained attacks on the Soviet Union.

UNITED STATES

VANCE TO VISIT MOSCOW 22, 23 OCTOBER TO CONTINUE SALT TALKS

LD071636Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 7 Oct 78 LD

[Text] In accordance with an agreement that has been reached, Cyrus Vance, the U.S. secretary of state, will visit Moscow on 22 and 23 October to continue the negotiations on limiting strategic armaments.

SPY CHARGES AGAINST SOVIET UN EMPLOYEES CALLED FRAMEUP

LD080223Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0002 GMT 8 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 8, TASS--In its latest edition, dated 8 October, IZVESTIYA, comments on the trial of Soviet citizens arrested in the United States. The article is headlined "Fabricated by the American Secret Police" and says in particular:

A premediatated plan was implemented by FBI agents at 1420 on 20 May in a suburb of Newark, New Jersey. Three Soviet diplomats were arrested and taken in handcuffs to the FBI office in Newark. V. Enger and R. Chernyayev, Soviet diplomats working for the UN Secretariat, and also V.Z.(We'll confine ourselves to his initials), the second secretary of the USSR Mission at the United Nations, were subjected to insults and the most impudent search at the headquarters of the secret police.

We are chatting in Moscow with V.Z., whom the FBI was forced to release after several hours. The arrest of V.Enger and R. Chernyayev was also illegal. Before beginning permanent work in the UN Secretariat, they had come to the United States on short-term work visits and were well known to the U.S. authorities as Soviet diplomats. Nevertheless, indictments were returned against them. The American authorities, unlike those of other countries where there are international organizations, treat the law on diplomatic immunity in a very peculiar way, not applying it to UN diplomatic employees. V. Enger and R. Chernyayev were not recognized as having immunity and were thrown behind bars.

V.Z. relates: When we were brought to the FBI building, there was already a crowd of journalists there, and television cameras were set up. Everything that happened was like a cheap detective novel. Later we found out that the warrent for the arrest had been issued as early as 12 May. Incidentally, in the course of an impudent search, the FBI agents did not manage to find anything that might compromise us in any way.

What charges did the secret police proffer? What motive could the professional provocateurs give for their actions? It turns out that the "charge" is one of damaging the national security interests of the United States. The FBI spokesmen stated without proof that the Soviet diplomats received secret information from "a naval officer." Nothing more, nothing less.

A forged document, which was the basis for the arrest orders issued by John E. (Kerry-Taylor) from the FBI--it was he who had been given the role of "accuser"--stated that V. Enger and R. Chernyayev "illegally and knowingly entered into a plot with the aim...of receiving information concerning the national defense of the United States." The U.S. administration, knowing full well that there was no material evidence whatsoever, prudently chose the charge of "conspiracy." And not by chance: The "conspiracy" charge "does not require" proof that illegal acts have been committed.

Even the FBI understood the clumsiness of this kind of "accusation". Then they decided to concoct "material evidence".

So magnetic tapes with "recordings of the voices of the accused" appeared, and a photo of the Soviet diplomats' cars and written and oral "testimony" of the FBI agents.

In the "movies and photos" it is impossible to make out anything but some unclear outlines of cars moving along a road and vague human silhouettes. "The voices of the accused" are a recorded collection of uncoordinated phrases and words that were then spliced together into one tape. When the lawyers asked the accusers about the trustworthiness of the recordings, they were forced to admit that FBI agents had electronically bugged private conversations. But it was not clear where and when the FBI had carried out this bugging, which is a violation of the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. That is understandable. To admit that the FBI conducts bugging in the UN headquarters would be to arouse a routine scandal, this time an international one.

Now we must tell how the figure of the "prosecution witness" appeared, a person whom the FBI at first refused to name, though some "naval officer" was mentioned. When the FBI managed to find a paid provocateur for this role, the name of Lieutenant Commander Arthur Lindberg appeared in the press. We do not know what sum he demanded from his masters. But one involuntarily recalls the trial of a group of Americans who were members of the antiwar movement in Pennsylvania. Then the FBI informer, a certain (B. Douglas), demanded $5,000 in advance and $45,000 after the trial had begun for "preparing the necessary documents." Then (Douglas') provocative role was exposed by some of the prosecution witnesses. Now Lindberg, the FBI asserts, can confirm everything, even under oath--even things what never happened. Without taking this into account, the prosecution has stated that his "testimony" will be considered "direct material evidence."

Meanwhile, in the opinion of more or less objective observers, this "testimony" and "material evidence" is a crude frameup. The "Soviet diplomats affair" has been deliberately fabricated by the U.S. authorities, using the most varied means, to step up the anti-Soviet campaign. Lawyers invited by the USSR Embassy in Washington, having thoroughly studied all the "documents", have come to the conclusion that the prosecution has no direct evidence or proof whatsoever. The FBI has staked its case mainly on a "secret document" allegedly found during a search of one of the Soviet diplomats, and given to him by the "naval officer."

Judging from everything, V.Z. says, the FBI agents intended to stuff this forgery into the personal belongings of the Soviet diplomat before arresting him. Then they would have had a justification for flaunting it in court. But some mechanism of the provocateurs didn't work, and they lost this "document". It was no accident that immediately after our arrest the FBI men were asking each other in confusion about what had happened to that "document". Naturally they can still concoct any old text and claim that it is the "accusation document".

The American secret policemen could have done anything they liked with the car that fell into their hands after our arrest. They could have driven it to any place in town and photographed it at any angle. No documents were handed to any of the named Soviet diplomats, even by the FBI provocateurs. There is no proof that the main witness for the prosecution, Lindberg, was known at all in any way to any of the Soviet people. In spite of this, a "letter" written by Lindberg and the FBI, offering "services" to the Soviet Union figures in the trial. But even that was received by the court from the hands of the FBI.

In a word, there is no legal support for the authenticity of the accusation, and elementary criminal evidence is lacking. They are substituting their own wares and the evidence of an admittedly paid agent and collaborator of the FBI for such evidence.

That is why the trial of Soviet diplomats now going on in the main chamber of the district court in Newark is, in the opinion of objective observers, nothing other than simply a well-directed spectacle in which everything is subordinated to the task of whipping up spy-mania and creating the atmosphere of a "witch-hunt."

Having whipped up an anti-Soviet hysteria, the objective is to use it to draw the attention of Americans away from vital problems, to palm a sensation off on them, albeit an obvious one and, chiefly, to try to defame the idea of good relations between the USSR and the United States.

At the same time it should be clear that these relations have great importance for both countries, and not just for them. It is even more important to clear them of artifically created problems that can only have a negative effect on the climate of these relations and hinder the resolution of truly great issues that demand the attention and efforts of the USSR and the United States. From this point of view the soonest possible ending of the "case" trumped up against the Soviet diplomats would be in the interests of both sides.

SOVIET NOTE PROTESTS U.S.' DISCRIMINATORY SHIPPING MEASURES

LD071420Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1248 GMT 7 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Washington, 7 October, TASS--The USSR Embassy in Washington has handed a note to the U.S. State Department. The note contains an evaluation of the bill recently approved by Congress concerning the commercial activity of foreign shipping companies on U.S. territory.

The note, in particular, points out that the bill is directed in the first place at limiting the commercial activity of Soviet shipping enterprises. Implementation of the bill would signify a consolidation of discrimination in shipping based solely on the criteria of the state form of ownership of commercial vessels.

At the same time, the desire of the U.S. Congress to unilaterally consolidate discriminatory measures in the commercial area of international shipping will be detrimental to the system that has been formed in both bilateral and multilateral relations in contemporary commercial navigation, and can only evoke a corresponding reaction in response.

In connection with this, the Soviet side expects that the U.S. authorities will consider all the circumstances with due attention and seriousness and take the necessary measures so that U.S.-USSR economic relations will not be complicated by additional elements.

KORNILOV ON PROSPECTS OF JOINT TALKS TO LIMIT ARMS SALES

LD071430Y Moscow TASS in English 1408 GMT 7 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 7, TASS--TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov writes: Director of politico-military affairs of the U.S. State Department, Leslie Gelb, addressed the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee with a report on problems pertaining to a limitation of international weapons trade. He stressed that the resolution of these problems is a matter of paramount significance. Gelb touched upon the fourth round of the Soviet-American talks on the limitation of the sale and supplies of conventional weapons scheduled to be held in December, and said that considering the complexities and difficulties which are to be overcome, Washington intends to continue to think of how best [to] implement the idea of the limitation of trade in arms into earnest agreements and treaties.

At the same time, speaking on the Soviet Union's stand, Gelb alleged that he can only guess what conclusion has been drawn by the Russians on the basis of the results of the three rounds of the talks already held.

One cannot, of course, but agree that the problem of curbing the "arms boom" is important and topical, and that the attainment of relevant interstate agreements to this score would be a weighty contribution to the cause of detente. All this is so. But it is not enough to place on record simply the significance of this problem, the main thing is to create conditions for its true settlement. As the Soviet-U.S. talks, which are the point at issue, have been and will be held not in a vacuum, but in a real concrete political world. And what is characteristic of it in the light of the questions which were raised in the report by Leslie Gelb? In the first place the fact that the USA, which is known to be the world's biggest exporter of weapons of death and destruction, continues increasing the scale of arms deals. In the past fiscal year, for example, the sum total of U.S. arms supplies abroad reached the record figure of 13.6 billion dollars, or 2.5 billion up on last year's figure.

One can say that as there is no agreement on the limitation of trade in arms, consequently there are no commitments to this score. Conventionally, this may be so. But is not it clear, however, that the incessant growth of the trade in arms taking place in the United States, the shipping up of the weapons boom, create such a political background, which far from easing, on the contrary complicates the resolution of the problem, does not improve, but complicates the atmosphere of the forthcoming talks, particularly if one takes into consideration that the bulk of the weapons with the "made in the USA" trade mark is supplied to the hot spots of the world, to the regions and countries, which are not far from the borders of the USSR or adjoin these borders. There is no need to recall facts proving this: It is only sufficient to say about the enormous supplies of U.S. weapons to the West European NATO member countries, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Iran, etc.

But what is the conclusion? It is obvious: If Washington really wants the talks to be a success, it is important that this wish be substantiated with real, concrete actions. There are ample opportunities for it. It also follows from the report of the same Leslie Gelb that a considerable part of U.S. weapons and materiel, which Washington planned and is planning to supply to various countries and regions, has not yet been delivered. Is it really necessary, with due regard for what has been said, to act in such a way that all the death-carrying cargoes be supplied to their "clients", that the "arms boom" far from decreasing should grow? It is obvious that with a constructive approach to this matter, Washington could display both goodwill and real wish to remove the cloud, which may only complicate the forthcoming talks.

As far as the Soviet Union's stand is concerned, it is well known and there is no need to "guess" it: The Soviet Union is for a limitation of conventional arms sales and arms supplies to other countries. Addressing the current 33rd session of the U.N. General Assembly in New York, the USSR foreign minister stressed that the political foundation for the resolution of this issue is in international-legal criteria that would take into consideration both the task of limiting arms sales and the legitimate interests of the peoples struggling against aggression, for their freedom and independence.

PRAVDA CRITICIZES HUANG HUA, PRC POLICIES

LD100638Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0315 GMT 10 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 10 Oct, TASS--PRAVDA has published the article "Peking Provokes" by Igor Aleksandrov. The following is the full text of the article:

On the eve of the opening of the 33d session of the UN General Assembly, with an agenda consisting of such urgent problems as strengthening peace and international security, consolidating and broadening detente and disarmament and curbing the arms race, Peking again launched an attack on the efforts of peace-loving states.

In the latest [V. Ocherepnoy] anti-Soviet article in PLE'S DAILY entitled "New Moments in the Soviet Union's Global Strategy," the Peking provocateurs called on the United States, Western Europe and Japan to oppose the "Soviet offensive." Peking's leaders are not all embarrassed that the Soviet Union proposed that such issues as "the conclusion of an international convention on strengthening guarantees of security for nonnuclear states," the conclusion of a world treaty on nonuse of force in international relations and the convocation of a world conference on disarmament be included in the session's agenda.

Events connected with the recent special UN General Assembly session on disarmament, at which the Chinese advocated the worsening of relations between states and acted as an accomplice in the arms race, are still fresh in the memory. At that session, the Chinese spokesmen demonstrated great resourcefulness. Striving to undermine the adoption of constructive proposals on disarmament and avoid any kind of obligations in this direction, they wanted at the same time to look like "active" supporters of disarmament. As they say, they kept the saintliness of a Buddha on their faces while setting fire to the skies.

Certain organs of their foreign press which favorably regard Peking's militarist policy began talking of "constructiveness" and "positive changes" in the policy of the new masters of the Forbidden City in this connection. Just what this "constructiveness" is really worth was shown especially clearly in the discussion about the final document of the special session. The Chinese delegation proposed about 60 amendments, and they were all aimed at depriving the final document of its main content--a demand for disarmament--and at fitting it to their own conceptions, which are contrary to the interests of peace throughout the world. As is known, the special UN session rejected Peking's "constructiveness," since it was aimed against any kind of measures for disarmament. The serious moral and political defeat did not stop the Maoists. They began a new round in the struggle against detente and disarmament.

In this regard, Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua's speech at the UN Session in progress in New York, which was preceded by the publication of the article in PEOPLE'S DAILY as a kind of instruction to the Chinese delegation, is indicative. Huang Hua's speech was maliciously anti-Soviet. It described the foreign policy of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in a distorted and slanderous fashion. Peking's leaders simply discount the achievements of peace-loving peoples and denigrate everything done recently for the development of neighborly relations, the establishment of mutually beneficial ties between states and the results of the Helsinki accords.

Striving to worsen the international situation in Europe and the rest of the world, the Chinese delegate once again tried to intimidate the peoples of Europe with the "Soviet threat." He openly called upon the NATO countries to step up their "self-defense," indicating that Peking would support the bloc in the event of military conflict.

PEOPLE'S DAILY and, from the rostrum of the United Nations, Huang Hua, slandered Soviet policy in Africa and the Near East. Distorting the Soviet policy of support for the national liberation movement, Peking did not have a word of condemnation for the ugly role of the ruling circles in Israel, the United States and Egypt in deciding the fate of the Arab peoples and especially the Arab people of Palestine. As the news agencies have reported, Peking is supporting the "trilateral conspiracy" of U.S. imperialism, Zionism and Arab reaction, which is turning the Near East into a powder keg. Thus, the Chinese minister's words about China being "seriously concerned" with the Near East situation are nothing but verbal camouflage for an inflammatory policy. Peking is on the side of the enemies of Angola, Ethiopia, and other independent African countries, trying to hinder the historical process of the liberation of peoples from colonialism and reaction.

The Chinese hegemonists particularly hate Cuba, the first socialist country in America, and Vietnam, the first socialist country in Southeast Asia. They would like to undermine the socialist gains of the peoples of those countries and are making quite an effort toward this end.

They are infuriated by the successes of Socialist Vietnam, its growth of stature in the world and its unwillingness to obey Peking's diktat. Charging the Soviet Union with "expansion" and "hegemonism," Peking is the pot calling the kettle black; the world knows well that it is Peking that regards the countries of Southeast Asia as its "lost territories." Peking's great-power hegemonist aspirations represent an enormous danger chiefly for the peoples of Asia.

The Chinese foreign minister said at the UN session that the Chinese leaders, in making visits to other countries, are conducting "a search for friendship, peace, mutual understanding and cooperation." In fact, the "search" is in another direction altogether. During their trips, they are working to undermine peace, split the developing countries, worsen the international situation and raise all kinds of opposition to detente.

Peking's leaders are striving to realize their hegemonistic intentions by any means, including military means. Hence, the armed provocations on their borders with neighboring states. "War is a completely normal phenomenon, and for that reason inevitable." These words are taken not from Hitler's "Mein Kampf," but from the PRC's "defense" minister. Guided by this "principle," Peking is today arming feverishly, seeking the keys to the arsenals of the NATO countries, thrusting itself forward as a NATO ally and literally demanding its all-round military strengthening as a weapon in the struggle against world socialism. Peking is fraternizing with extreme reaction, from supporters of military confrontation in Europe to the "hawks" in the United States, fascists in Chile and racists in South Africa. And meanwhile, they state in Peking, without a trace of embarrassment, that they do not intend to ignore the reactionary regimes if these regimes are the enemies of their enemies. The Soviet Union has been officially declared as China's "number one" enemy.

It is against the peaceful foreign policy of the USSR and other socialist countries that Peking's leaders are mobilizing reactionary forces, understanding that this represents the chief danger for their hegemonist plans. The Chinese minister casually opposed the Soviet Union's proposal for conclusion of a world convention on strengthening the guarantees of security for nonnuclear states. He stated that this proposal "has as its aim binding the numerous middling and small states hand and foot and depriving them of their ability to defend themselves."

This it seems, is the kind of absurdity one can come out with when one's course is the undermining of detente and worsening of the international situation, and when the policy of universal militarization and preparation for war becomes the touchstone of foreign policy! Peking's hegemonists are calling for arming and preparation for war with maniacal stubbornness. They reject nuclear disarmament, and call the decisions on non-use of force "empty talk," the proposals on banning development and production of new weapons of mass annihilation "empty illusions," and the proposal that permanent members of the UN Security Council refrain from expanding their armies and building up nonnuclear weaponry "a new falsehood."

The aims of Peking's rulers are radically inimical to the vital interests of peoples, including the Chinese people. Their policy of pushing mankind toward war is extremely dangerous, and nobody should have any illusions on that score. The interests of peace and of all peoples suggest that Peking's provocative appeals must be exposed, and that the Maoists' chauvinist, expansionist aspirations must be given a decisive rebuff.

MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN ON PRC'S INTRIGUES IN SOUTH ASIA

LD062238Y Moscow TASS in English 1335 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 6, TASS--The INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS journal [MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN] notes that a considerable invigoration of activity by the PRC diplomacy in the Asian countries, in particular in South Asia, has been recently observed. Peking, notes the article in the tenth issue of the journal, is spreading in every way possible the allegation that it is only on the road of political integration with the PRC as a "developing country belonging to the Third World" that the states of Asia, Africa and Latin America can free themselves from the dominance of "super-power" and constantly stresses the "common experience, common struggle and common interests for a long time in the past, present and the future."

"The foreign policy manoeuvres by the present Chinese leadership are directed at camouflaging its expansionist designs, lulling the vigilance of leading circles of the developing countries, gearing them to the Maoist policy. The Chinese leaders are increasingly wider using the anti-Marxist, geopolitical 'theory of three worlds' as an ideological signboard with the aim of glossing over the main class contradiction of this epoch and substantiating the general aim--that of breaking away from the Soviet Union and contraposing to it both the socialist and developing countries, creating on this basis under China's aegis of a 'broadest united front of struggle against hegemonism' (Peking is known to imply the Soviet Union here).

"Special attention is devoted in Peking to South and Southeast Asia, where it is launching an 'offensive of friendship' as foreign observers say," writes the INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS journal. Everywhere Chinese emissaries swear 'the most ardent sentiments of fraternal friendship and goodneighbourliness, assure of their wish to build relations with these countries along the principles of peaceful coexistence, non-interference in the internal affairs of each other, the article notes.

"Contrary to their numerous statements aimed at convincing the leaders of the Asian countries of the 'best intentions' of Peking, the PRC leaders do not stop for a minute engineering new provocations against the regimes existing in those states." "The experience of China's relations with the countries of South Asia sufficiently clearly reveals the real essence of 'Chairman Mao's revolutionary foreign-policy line': friendship and goodneighbourliness in words, while making territorial claims, whipping up internal disorder, instigating separatism and armed anti-government struggle, setting neighbour countries against each other--in action.

PRC REPORTEDLY INCREASING ARMS SUPPLIES TO CAMBODIA

LD051438Y Moscow TASS in English 1316 GMT 5 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Singapore, October 5, TASS--The ASIAN WALL STREET JOURNAL reports that China is expanding supplies of weaponry to Kampuchea, including jet fighters which are piloted by Chinese airmen. Peking's suspension of the talks concerning ethnic Chinese in Vietnam, the newspaper remarks, coincided with an aggravation of the situation both on the Chinese-Vietnamese and the Kampuchean-Vietnamese frontiers. China continues staging provocations and violating the sovereignty and territory integrity of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The Chinese leadership, the newspaper sums up, seeks to compel Vietnam to renounce its independent foreign policy. At the same time, the Peking leaders deliberately prevent the establishment of constructive and goodneighbourly relations between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and states of Southeast Asia.

DOWNFALL OF TSENG SHAO-SHAN, PRC FACTIONALISM DISCUSSED

OW092217Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 5 Oct 78 OW

[Svetranin commentary: "Factional Struggles Continue Among the Leadership in Peking"]

[Text] A couple of days ago it was reported that Tseng Shao-shan, member of the CCP Central Committee and first secretary of the Liaoning Provincial CCP Committee, had been dismissed from office. Foreign observers regard this as another local purge of senior leading cadres. The downfall of Tseng Shao-shan is also another blow dealt by the Teng Hsiao-ping faction at the Cultural Revolution and the Hua Kuo-feng faction. Tseng Shao-shan rode to power by relying on the Cultural Revolution faction.

It seems that preparations to overthrow Tseng Shao-shan were made long ago. This can be proved by the fact that Tatzupao attacking Tseng Shao-shan and his partner, Chen Hsi-lien, commander of the Peking military region, occasionally appeared in different cities in Liaoning Province. They were both attacked for being involved with the gang of four. Thus, another round in the internal struggle between the two major political factions of Peking's leadership ended with a victory for the Teng Hsiao-ping faction. Of course, this victory will only accelerate the fight between the two factions led by Teng Hsiao-ping and Hua Kuo-feng.

According to foreign observers, the two factions differ in their views on China's past and future, their appraisals of the first Cultural Revolution, their attitudes toward the movement to expose and criticize the gang of four and their stands concerning how the issue should be developed. Hua Kuo-feng wants to limit the purge to a certain degree, while Teng Hsiao-ping, on the contrary, holds that it should be expanded.

Who will the next target be after Tseng Shao-shan? The British paper THE OBSERVER points out that it will probably be Peking Mayor Wu Te, whose prestige has been declining rather precipitously. This partner of Hua Kuo-feng has suffered furious attacks in Tatzupao. Should Wu Te be overthrown, it would mean that Teng Hsiao-ping had gotten around Hua Kuo-feng, who had attempted to reject him in 1976. Such vindictive actions by Teng Hsiao-ping, and these leaders' schemes against each other, will cause disaster for hundreds and thousands of party, state and army leading cadres at all levels. And it will bring about further instability in Chinese society.

PCI HEAD BERLINGUER VISITS USSR, TALKS WITH OFFICIALS

Arrival in Moscow

LD070155Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Berlinguer, secretary general of the Italian Communist Party, arrived in Moscow today at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

He is accompanied by members of the party's Central Committee: Rubbi, deputy head of the International Department of the Central Committee and Tato, assistant to the general secretary.

Comrade Berlinguer was met at the Sheremetyevo Airport by Ponomarev, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and by other officials.

Meeting With Suslov, Ponomarev

LD071716Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1615 GMT 7 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 7 October, TASS--A meeting was held today at the CPSU Central Committee between Mikhail Suslov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Boris Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Enrico Berlinguer, secretary general of the Italian Communist Party.

During the meeting, which took place in a comradely atmosphere, there was an exchange of views on issues concerning both parties.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1700 GMT on 7 October notes that "Zagladin, candidate member of the Central Committee and first deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee" as well as "members of the Central Committee of the Italian Communist Party Rubbi, deputy head of the International Department and Tato, assistant to the secretary general of the Italian Communist Party" also took part in the meeting.]

'Friendly, Comradely' Talks With Brezhnev

LD091140Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 9 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, met Comrade Enrico Berlinguer, general secretary of the Italian Communist Party [PCI], in the Kremlin today. They discussed events in the year since their last meeting. Mikhail Andreyevich Suslov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and CPSU Central Committee secretary, and Comrade Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and CPSU Central Committee secretary, also participated in the meeting.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev spoke on plans to implement the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, on results of fulfillment of the 10th 5-Year Plan over the first 2.5 years of its effectiveness, on implementation of the tenets of the new USSR Constitution, and on how the problems arising during communist construction are being solved.

He told Berlinguer of CPSU actions in the international arena, of the struggle of the Soviet Union to consolidate detente and end the arms race.

Enrico Berlinguer spoke of PCI activity aimed at solving the problems facing Italy today, of the Italian communists' struggle to insure the working masses vital rights and interests and for the country's democratic development.

He informed him of the efforts undertaken by the Italian communists in the interests of strengthening peace.

Comrades Brezhnev and Berlinguer expressed their concern at the complications which have taken place in the international situation, and stressed their conviction that the interests of general peace and the people's security insistently demand that the struggle to strengthen and deepen international detente, and to spread it to the whole world, be activated.

The successful development of comradely contacts between the CPSU and the PCI was noted with satisfaction, and the intention to contribute to their further deepening was expressed.

Taking part in the conversation, which was held in a friendly, comradely atmosphere, were also: Aleksandrov, CPSU Central Committee candidate member and aide to the CPSU Central Committee general secretary; Comrade Rubbi, deputy head of the International Department of the PCI Central Committee; and Comrade Tato, head of the PCI Press Department.

Berlinguer Interviewed on Talks

LD092136Y Rome Domestic Service in Italian 1800 GMT 9 Oct 78 LD

[Demetrio Volcic interview in Moscow with Enrico Berlinguer, secretary general of the Italian Communist Party--PCI--"after his talks in the Kremlin"--recorded]

[Text] [Question] What was your impression of President Brezhnev?

[Answer] He seemed to be in good health.

[Question] Your trip, as you are aware, has given rise to many interpretations, some friendly and others decidedly not. It is being said that this is not merely a normal resumption of international activities on PCI's part, but that this has some other as yet unknown motive. The Paris and Belgrade legs of your trip would, in other words, be a diplomatic cover up for the visit to Moscow. Is this leg just a political one or did your conversations have a dimension beyond normal contacts between communist parties?

[Answer] This leg is a political one. The three visits coincided because the invitations sent to us from the three countries--I mean the parties of the three countries which we are visiting--also coincided.

However, this coincidence has (?some significance). I think that it underlines the fact that we are an autonomous party, which is developing its own policy in full autonomy; and, so that this autonomy not turn into isolation, it seeks to develop its own contacts and its own international relations in many directions.

First was a communist party operating in a capitalist country, under conditions very similar to ours--the French Communist Party; then, there was the Communist Party of the largest socialist country--the Soviet Union; tomorrow, there will be a meeting with the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, a nonalined country.

[Question] Speaking with Suslov [words indistinct] with Brezhnev, you probably examined both questions on which an identity of views exists, or at least a certain convergence, and likewise questions on which differences of substance and of emphasis were also probably tackled. What are these problems? You have not visited Moscow now for nearly a year. During these 11 months, has there been a convergence, or, have the differences and the divergence between the varying conceptions of socialism actually grown?

[Answer] We noted the existence of important points of convergence, particularly regarding the necessity of intense efforts to remove obstacles to the development of the detente process, the armaments reduction and the promotion of adequate economic cooperation on the international level. From this point of view, we (?advocated) the need to develop collaboration between forces of differing inspiration, particularly in Western Europe, to (?amplify) the role of the Western workers movement in all its component parts; we also stressed the role of the nonalined countries.

As regards divergence, it is known that certain divergent viewpoints exist, that they are concerned with certain essential aspects of the concept of socialism, and that these divergences persist.

[Question] Consequently, there has been no rapprochement, and no further searching examination of these divergences?

[Answer] These talks enabled us to reach a better understanding of our respective positions on these problems too, especially to illustrate to our CPSU comrades our concept, not only of an original Italian road to socialism, but also our views on the problems of socialism in the world.

[Question] Did you talk about the Chinese problem?

[Answer] Yes, naturally we talked about the Chinese problem, and we exchanged views on this important international problem.

[Question] Was there only an exchange of viewpoints?

[Answer] What else could there be apart from an exchange of viewpoints?

[Question] Are you playing some sort of mediator with this trip to Paris, Moscow and Belgrade?

[Answer] No. We have undertaken no task of mediation, nor have we received any mandate for this from other communist parties.

However, I must say in this connection that, naturally, we are pleased every time that, when respecting the autonomy of each party and its right to seek an autonomous road of struggle for socialism, greater understanding is shown of the (?differences existing) between the various positions.

[Question] Does a plan exist to summon a new conference of European communist parties or even a world conference, and if so, what would your position be?

[Answer] But this plan does not exist. No proposal to this effect has been submitted to us, and our position is that favorable conditions for this do not exist today, and there is no necessity to summon such a conference.

Communique on Visit

LD092030Y Moscow TASS in English 2005 GMT 9 Oct 78 LD

["Joint Communique on Enrico Berlinguer's Stay in the Soviet Union"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, October 9, TASS--Enrico Berlinguer, general secretary of the Italian Communist Party, stayed in the Soviet Union from October 6 to 9 at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. He was accompanied by Antonio Rubbi and Antonio Tato, members of the ICP Central Committee.

Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, received Enrico Berlinguer and had a friendly conversation with him. [Rome Domestic Service in Italian at 1800 GMT on 9 October said the talks "went far beyond the time limit scheduled by protocol."]

Enrico Berlinguer, and Antonio Rubbi and Antonio Tato, ICP CC members, also had a meeting with Mikhail Suslov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU CC, secretary of the CPSU CC; Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU CC, secretary of the CPSU CC; and Vadim Zagladin, alternate member of the CPSU CC.

As a result of the conversations that took place, the following joint communique was adopted.

Representatives of the CPSU and the ICP had a wide-ranging exchange of views on key problems of the present-day international situation.

Noted was a joint concern over the slowing down of detente and international cooperation, the slowing down which was resultant of the activities of certain imperialist, militarist and reactionary circles and which brought about a growing threat of a new spiral of the arms race.

The delegations of the CPSU and the ICP emphasized an urgent necessity to take new and energetic efforts to give a new impulse to the process of detente and international cooperation, consolidate in Europe the constructive results achieved at the European conference in Helsinki, through full implementation of all the provisions of the Final Act.

In this respect, of major importance would be real measures aimed at preventing an intensification of the arms race. The two sides consider that a valuable contribution to attaining this goal would be provided by an earliest completion of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, by concrete headway at the Vienna talks on the reduction of the armed forces and armaments in central Europe, by a consistent implementation of the recommendations of the UN General Assembly's special session on disarmament.

The representatives of the CPSU and the ICP insistently emphasized the necessity of solving the unresolved international problems through political talks on the basis of equality and justice with the recognition of the legitimate rights of each people and without any interference from the outside whatsoever. This would promote an easing of tensions and an improvement of the international situation and would create favourable prerequisites for the solution of the most urgent tasks concerning the economic, social and cultural development of the whole of mankind.

Leonid Brezhnev and Enrico Berlinguer again emphasized the Soviet and Italian communists' full solidarity with the struggle of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America for national and social emancipation from whatever forms of oppression, for free and independent determinations of ways of their development.

A policy of international economic cooperation capable of placing resources and means at the service of the cause of consistent emancipation billions of men and women from hunger, backwardness and illiteracy, policy capable of creating prerequisites for organizing a new international economic order would be of great benefit to the development of those peoples.

The leaders of the CPSU and the ICP pointed out that the working-class movement of the countries of Western Europe on the basis of cooperation between the communists, the socialists and the social democrats, and other democratic forces, including Christian ones, can make its own contribution to strengthening the processes of detente and cooperation between states with different social systems and to ensuring the success of the struggle for democratization of international relations and development of social progress.

The movement of non-aligned countries can make an important contribution to the attainment of these goals.

The leaders of the CPSU and the ICP reaffirmed the view in accordance with which some differences in the positions of parties do not contradict and must not interfere with the strengthening and expansion of cooperation and internationalist solidarity among communist and workers' parties of all countries and continents. In the efforts aimed at achieving these goals, the two parties will be inspired by the principles formulated by the Conference of Communist and Workers' Parties of Europe in Berlin in June 1976.

The representatives of the CPSU and the ICP exchanged a detailed information on the state of affairs in their countries and the activities of the two parties. In so doing, the delegation of the Italian Communist Party informed the Soviet side of the adventuristic activities of criminal groupings with the help of which reactionary forces try, by organizing terrorist acts, to impede the development of the democratic gains of the workers and development of the democratic gains of the workers and the Italian people.

The representatives of the two parties condemned those terrorist activities as utterly contradicting to the interests of the working-class and democratic movement.

During the meeting there was an exchange of opinions on prospects for the development of relations between the Soviet Union and Italy. The two parties' unanimous opinion was expressed that the development of such relations in all fields is very important and meets the mutual interests of the two countries and their peoples.

The representatives of the CPSU and the ICP positively appraised relations between the two parties and stated their striving to continue to promote their development.

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While in the Soviet Union Enrico Berlinguer visited Zvezdny Gorodok (Star City) where he had a warm and comradely meeting with cosmonauts of the USSR.

BUNDESTAG DEBATES SHOW FRG INTEREST IN COOPERATION WITH USSR

LD082246Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 8 Oct 78 LD

[Text] FRG Government held debates on development of economic cooperation with the Soviet Union in the Bundestag. Eduard Mnatsakanov, our correspondent in Bonn, reports on the government's decision adopted on this issue following the Bundestag debates.

The decision welcomes the Soviet Union and FRG Governments' desire to place economic, industrial and technological cooperation on a broad and long-term basis. Particular importance is attached, to the 25 year economic agreement which was signed during the May visit to the FRG of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, leader of the Soviet state. The long-term agreement, the decision emphasizes, contributes to strengthening detente in the West and East.

Chancellor Schmidt and FRG Foreign Minister Genscher who during the debates, resolutely rejected attempts by CDU/CSU representatives to play down the political significance of the May agreement.

Having noted the completely particular [as heard] position of this agreement in the cause of strengthening mutual trust and as far as future generations are concerned, Chancellor Schmidt stated that the agreement has become a constituent part of the policy of peace and detente, a major stimulus in the development of our cooperation.

Some 6 years ago the Soviet-West German Intergovernmental Economic Commission was set up. The goods turnover between our countries grew fourfold over these years. FRG export to the Soviet Union has grown by 8.2 percent in 7 months of this year alone, while imports from the Soviet Union have increased by more than 27 percent. This cooperation secures jobs for hundreds of thousands of working people in West Germany.

The parliamentary debates have again shown the great interest of FRG political and business circles, of wide public of the country in further development of cooperation with the Soviet Union.

SOVIET GROUP VISITS BONN; TALKS TO BUNDESRAT OFFICIALS

LD072058Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1931 GMT 7 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, 7 October, TASS--The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by Ivan Kebin, Chairman of the Legislative Proposals Commission of the USSR Supreme Soviet Council of Nationalities and Chairman of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic, Supreme Soviet has ended its visit to the FRG.

The delegation had talks with FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and members of the Bundesrat. Questions of bilateral relations between the USSR and the FRG were dicsussed, including Soviet-West German economic cooperation, as well as problems of disarmament and reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe.

The Soviet parliamentarians left for home today.

ITALIAN, FRENCH CP LEADERS HOLD MEETING IN PARIS

LD061222Y Moscow TASS in English 1155 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Paris, October 6, TASS--A meeting was held here between the general secretary of the French Communist Party, Georges Marchais, and the general secretary of the Italian Communist Party, Enrico Berlinguer. The newspaper L'HUMANITE today publishes a report on the results of this meeting. It says information and views were exchanged on the situation in France and Italy, and on other questions.

FRENCH-SOVIET 'FRUITFUL COOPERATION' IN INTEREST OF DETENTE

LD091710Y Moscow TASS in English 1508 GMT 9 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Paris, October 9, TASS--France and the USSR, successfully developing mutual many-sided links, are an example of fruitful cooperation between countries with different socio-economic systems in the interests of detente and universal peace. This has been stated to a TASS correspondent by Roger Lucas, general secretary of the Franco-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, member of the French delegation to the recent 13th session of the Permanent Mixed Soviet-French Commission for Scientific-Technical and Economic Cooperation, held here. This cooperation has the aim to establish mutual understanding and trust between our peoples, to bring them closer together, to put an end to international tension which is equally detrimental to all countries of the world, both capitalist and socialist, he said. This is why, the leaders of France and its people believe, Franco-Soviet cooperation is a major factor of equilibrium and peace in Europe and the whole world. It is exactly in this aspect that the results of the work of the "grand commission" should be appraised.

It is indicative that both sides not only expressed satisfaction with the development of reciprocal economic, scientific-technical and trade cooperation, but also optimism for their future. They undertook to take concrete measures to see to it that trade in the period of 1975-79 should trebel.

A new long-term programme of deepening Soviet-French cooperation in economy and industry for a period of up to 1990 is now being drawn up.

Thus, Soviet-French cooperation, said the general secretary of the Franco-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, is characterised by realism and dynamic development. Approximately 300 French firms now directly cooperate with the Soviet Union. Besides, about 600 firms are filling in Soviet orders or participate in trade with the USSR. Soviet-French cooperation is in for a great future, Roger Lucas stressed.

FUTURE CABINET PROGRAM MUST GUARANTEE PORTUGUESE CITIZENS' RIGHTS

LD091925Y Moscow TASS in English 1855 GMT 9 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Lisbon, October 9, TASS--"The Portuguese Communist Party comes out in defence of stability of state institutions and the democratic regime, and seeks to make a contribution to the solution of the present government crisis within the framework of undeviating observance of the constitution." This was stated by Alvaro Cunhal, general secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party (PCP), in an interview with the Lisbon newspaper O DIARIO.

It becomes increasingly evident with every passing day that the PCP's participation is not only useful and essential but also vitally important for the solution of national problems, he emphasized. The Communist Party is the working people's party which is increasingly supported by the mass of the people. "The PCP," Alvaro Cunhal said, "is ready to enter a government formed on the basis of an inter-party agreement. It also gives the communists the right to participate in another government formula and in an interim transitional cabinet formed from among representatives of four major parliamentary groups with a view to preparing pre-iterm parliamentary elections."

The opinion of the Communist Party is that a future Cabinet's program must guarantee democratic rights and freedoms of Portuguese citizens throughout the national territory, ensure the existence of present economic patterns--the nationalized and private sectors, agricultural cooperatives and collective farms, workers' control at enterprises, and small entrepreneurs. It must envisage a national economic, progress a large-scale enlistment of internal means and resources to overcome financial and economic difficulties, an improvement of the living conditions of the working people and middle sections of population, an expansion of external relations resultant of strengthening friendship and cooperation with all countries and peoples. [sentence as received] A government program must guarantee national independence, unity and territorial integrity. Only in that case it will be backed by the Portuguese Communist Party.

Giving a principled appraisal of the stand of the Socialist Party, Alvaro Cunhal pointed out that "neither at present and far less in future the socialists will be able to govern the country alone."

The PCP, he pointed out, is ready for reaching accord and for joint actions with all democrats, particularly with the socialists, considering that the unity of all democratic forces is the paramount condition for the defence of democracy in Portugal.

YURIY DUBININ APPOINTED NEW AMBASSADOR TO SPAIN

LD080928Y Moscow TASS in English 1835 GMT 7 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 7, TASS--The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet appointed Yuriy Dubinin the Soviet Union's ambassador in Spain.

Yuriy Dubinin, born in 1930, is in the diplomatic service since 1955. In 1964-1968, he was counselor of the USSR Embassy in France and then worked in the apparatus of the USSR Foreign Ministry.

Sergey Bogomolov was relieved of the duties of the USSR Ambassador in Spain in connection with his appointment to a new post.

SYRIAN PRESIDENT CONCLUDES VISIT TO USSR; COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

Joint Communique Issued

LD100903Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Oct 78 pp 1, 4 LD

[Apparent text of joint Soviet-Syrian communique]

[Text] General Secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party (Ba'th), and President of the Syrian Arab Republic Hafiz al-Asad paid an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union on October 5-6, 1978, leading a Syrian party and government delegation, at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers.

During the visit, talks were held between L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; A.N. Kosygin, CPSU CC Politburo member and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; A.A. Gromyko, CPSU CC Politburo member and USSR foreign minister; D.F. Ustinov, CPSU CC Politburo member and USSR defense minister; and H. al-Asad, general secretary of the Ba'th and president of Syria. M. al-Ayyubi, member of the Ba'th leadership and deputy chairman of the Progressive National Front; A.H. Khaddam, member of the Ba'th leadership, deputy prime minister and minister for foreign affairs; and J. Shayya, deputy prime minister for economic affairs. The talks passed in an atmosphere of mutual friendship and understanding.

Taking part in the negotiations were:

On the Soviet side, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations S.A. Skachkov; First Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR G.M. Korniyenko;First Deputy Foreign Trade Minister M.R. Kuzmin; USSR Ambassador to Syria Yu.N. Chernyakov; Adviser to the general secretary of the CPSU CC E.M. Samoteykin; Chief of the Department of Middle East Countries at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs O.A. Grinevskiy;

On the Syrian side, member of the central leadership of the Progressive National Front D. Na'me; Minister of Information A. Iskandar Ahmad; Syrian Ambassador in the USSR J. al-Kafri; chief of the Department of East European Countries at the Syrian Foreign Ministry A. Nashabi.

The sides held a detailed, fruitful exchange of views in a friendly atmosphere on questions of further strengthening relations of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Syria and also on some international problems of mutual interest.

The talks were primarily aimed at the situation in the Middle East and the tasks of the struggle for establishing a just and lasting peace in that area.

Syrian President H. al-Asad, as instructed by the conference of the National Front for Steadfastness and Confrontation held in Damascus on September 20-23 this year, informed the Soviet side about the conference's decisions. He stressed that conference participants condemned the capitulatory position of the Egyptian leadership before the Israeli aggressor, flatly rejected the Camp David accords and stated their determination to confront them and direct their efforts toward frustrating them.

The Soviet side highly assessed the results of the Damascus conference, which made an important contribution to strengthening the solidarity and unity of action of progressive Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organization in the struggle against the machinations of imperialism and anti-Arab separate deals.

The Soviet side expressed solidarity with the Arab countries and peoples that reject attempts to persuade them to support the Camp David deal. It was noted that in the prevailing situation, the task of rallying and activating all forces opposed to the capitulatory line in Middle East affairs and favoring the attainment of genuine peace by the peoples of the Middle East becomes particularly urgent.

The sides arrived at the unanimous conclusion that the Camp David accords between Israel and Egypt, reached with the active participation of the United States, constitute collusion behind the backs of the Arabs, is contrary to their interests and is anti-Arab. They believe that the purpose of the Camp David deal is to substitute partial, separate decisions that would allow Israel to retain the captured Arab lands and prevent the implementation of the Palestinian Arab people's inalienable national rights for a just and comprehensive Middle East settlement.

Thereby still another attempt has been made to divide the Arabs and pit them against each other, to impose on Arab countries terms of a settlement suiting the aggressor and the forces supporting it which merely intensifies the explosive character of the Middle East situation.

The Soviet Union and Syria strongly condemn the Egyptian leadership's actions which seriously damage the struggles of Arab and African peoples for national emancipation and greater independence. It is the deep conviction of the sides that the method of behind-the-scenes separate deals, far from facilitating, only removes and complicates the establishment of peace in that area.

The sides drew special attention to the connection between the policy of separate deals and the efforts of imperialist circles to expand their positions in the Middle East, particularly in regard to military considerations.

The leaders of the Soviet Union and Syria confirmed the determination of the two countries to continue jointly the struggle for establishing a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. There is only one way to achieve this goal and it envisages the complete withdrawal of Israel's troops from all Arab territories it occupied in 1967, the implementation of the Palestinian Arab people's inalienable national rights--including the right to self-determination--the creation of an independent state of its own and the Palestinians' right to return to their hearths in accordance with existing UN resolutions.

The sides believe that such a settlement requires the collective efforts of all the interested sides, including the Palestine Liberation Organization as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people, within the framework of the Geneva peace conference--an international mechanism specially created for achieving peace in the Middle East.

The Soviet side stated the Soviet Union's unwavering solidarity with the Arab peoples waging a just struggle to eliminate the consequences of the Israeli aggression. The Soviet side highly assessed Syria's principled position in Middle East affairs, its important positive contribution to the strengthening of forces which reject the path of anti-Arab deals.

The Syrian side expressed deep appreciation to the Soviet Union for the all-round support it gives the Arabs in their just struggle. It also stressed the need for Soviet participation in a Middle East settlement at every stage.

The sides underlined the importance of strengthening to the greatest extent the Arab people's friendship with the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community, which is in the interests of insuring the independence and security of Arab countries, the development of their national economy and the promotion of their well-being. They declared that they will continue to rebuff any attempts to undermine Soviet-Arab friendship.

Having discussed the situation in Lebanon, the sides condemned the interference by Israel, which enjoys the support of imperialist forces, in that country's internal affairs, its unending attempts to increase tension and provoke a split in the Lebanese state. The USSR and Syria confirmed their determination to facilitate a normalization of the situation in Lebanon based on insuring its sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. They came out for the consolidation of the legitimate authority of the Lebanese Government throughout the country's territory and the observance of the legitimate interests of the Palestine resistance movement in Lebanon.

The leaders of the Soviet Union and Syria expressed the conviction that firm friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and Syrian peoples are in their vital interests, are of a permanent character and serve the cause of international peace and security. The sides confirmed the mutual determination to further strengthen USSR-Syrian friendship and cooperation on the basis of the principles laid down in the joint Soviet-Syrian declaration signed in Moscow on April 13, 1974, by L.I. Brezhnev and H. al-Asad.

In this context, the sides examined the state of friendly Soviet-Syrian cooperation in various areas. They noted with satisfaction the steady development and deepening of Soviet-Syrian relations in political, party, military, economic, cultural, scientific and technical fields.

The USSR and Syria will continue attaching primary importance to the development of political relations between them, guided by the fact that the strength of these relations has a positive effect on the entire complex of questions of Soviet-Syrian cooperation.

They stressed the special importance of the now traditional meetings by the leaders of the Soviet Union and Syria which make a fundamental contribution to defining the further path of development of Soviet-Syrian relations. The sides confirmed the usefulness of contacts and consultations on other levels as well, and spoke in favor of expanding them.

During the talks, the sides discussed questions of further Soviet assistance to Syria in strengthening its defense potential and adopted relevant decisions.

During the exchange of views on general questions of world politics, the sides noted a broad coincidence of views, confirming their invariable adherence to the cause of struggle for strengthening peace and the security of the peoples, for deepening international detente and spreading it to all parts of the world.

The Syrian side noted the importance of the proposals tabled by the Soviet Union for deliberation by the 33rd session of the UN General Assembly on concluding an international convention to strengthen the guarantees for the security of nonnuclear states, and also on the nondevelopment of nuclear weapons on the territories of states where they are not presently deployed.

The sides underlined the need to further strengthen the alliance of the forces of world socialism, the non-aligned states, the national liberation movement and all progressive forces in the struggle for peace and international security for the freedom and independence of the peoples. They state their determination to develop and strengthen solidarity between these natural allies.

The sides condemned interference by imperialist powers in the affairs of the African Continent, attempts to arrest and turn back the advance of African peoples along the path of national emancipation and social progress. Having examined the situation in the south of Africa, the sides expressed support for the legitimate struggles waged by the liberation movements in Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

Noting the important role of the United Nations in strengthening peace and international security, the Soviet Union and Syria came out for the further strengthening of this international organization and raising its effectiveness, based on the strict observance by all states of the goals and principles of its charter.

The Soviet and the Syrian sides expressed satisfaction with the results of H. al-Asad's visit and the accords reached, which they regard as a contribution to greater friendship and understanding between the Soviet and Syrian peoples, and to expanding Soviet-Syrian cooperation.

H. al-Asad thanked the leaders and people of the Soviet Union for the warm reception and heartfelt hospitality accorded him and the persons accompanying him. He extended invitations to visit the Syrian Arab Republic to L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU CC and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and A.N. Kosygin, CPSU CC Politburo member and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. The invitations were accepted with gratitude.

Syria's Al-Asad Interviewed

LD062028Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1900 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Unnamed soviet radio and television correspondent's interview with Syrian President al-Asad "before leaving Moscow airport"--recorded]

[Text] Whenever I meet with Comrade Brezhnev and the Soviet leaders, we always emerge with positive results. We are friends linked--as leaders, as two countries, as two peoples --by strong ties of friendship. This time, as always, our talks took place in a spirit of cordiality, friendship and responsible debate. We have reached a position which we think is useful. Our discussions naturally concerned the situation now prevailing in the region.

We have reached a position which we think is beneficial to the peoples of the region and to the cause of justice and peace in the region and in the world.

For this reason, I am returning to Syria satisfied. Naturally, I have excellent impressions of the meetings that have been held; I always feel that the Soviet Union, this friendly country, is firmly standing by our just cause, as well as by other just causes in the world.

For this reason, I extend my thanks to Comrade Brezhnev, to the Soviet leadership and to all the Soviet citizens for their position of support for us in Syria and the Arab homeland, for the sake of justice, right and peace.

Al-Asad Telegrams Brezhnev

LD071320Y Moscow TASS in English 1305 GMT 7 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 7, TASS--General Secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party, President Hafiz al-Asad of the Syrian Arab Republic addressed a telegram to General Secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev saying: "Returning home after the meeting with you and your comrades in the party and state leadership, I should like to express our full satisfaction with the identity of views, which was manifest in the course of the talks, and the contribution they will make towards a strengthening of relations between our countries."

Al-Asad's Visit a Success

LD082222Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1730 GMT 8 Oct 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The results of the Soviet-Syrian summit held in Moscow are preoccupying Arab and world public opinion. The talks which Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad conducted with L. Brezhnev and other Soviet leaders, the two speeches made at the Kremlin by L. Brezhnev and Hafiz al-Asad and the Soviet-Syrian joint communique on the outcome of the meeting provide the answers to the most pressing issues which today concern the Arab world and all of world public opinion.

A most important result of the visit, no doubt, was the evaluation of the Middle East situation in view of the recently concluded Camp David agreements between Israel and Egypt with the active participation of the United States. It is common knowledge that Washington, which initiated this agreement, and many U.S. and Western propaganda bodies and the Egyptian information service have been trying to conceal the essence of the Camp David agreement and its anti-Arab trend under the guise of false talks about peace. Moscow has taken a firm stand on such attempts.

During the Soviet-Syrian talks, the question of the legitimate rights of the Arab peoples, which Israel has violated, was given priority. It was from this point of view that the Camp David agreements were discussed. The two sides reached the same conclusion. The Soviet-Syrian joint communique says that both sides held the view that the meaning of the Camp David deal lies in substituting separate decisions which will allow Israel to hold onto occupied Arab territories and prevent the realization of the national legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people for a just and comprehensive settlement.

From this, one can draw another important conclusion: It is necessary to confront the Camp David deal and to reach a real settlement on the basis of firm guarantees for the legitimate rights of the Arab peoples, including the Palestinians' right to establish an independent state and their right to return to their homes in accordance with the UN resolutions.

Such a settlement, the Soviet Union and Syria pointed out, requires collective efforts by all the parties concerned, including the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people, within the framework of a special mechanism set up for establishing peace in the Middle East--namely, the Geneva peace conference.

Another new important result of the Soviet-Syrian Moscow meeting must be noted: Both the Soviet Union and Syria point out that strengthening the cohesion among the ranks of all forces opposing the capitulatory course regarding the Middle East situation and calling for the establishment of real peace in the Middle East is regarded as one of the most pressing tasks. Suitable possibilities for this exist. The reply to the Camp David conference has not been limited to the intention of those belonging to the National Front for Steadfastness and Confrontation--Syria, Algeria, Libya, the PDRY and the PLO--to intensify the struggle against imperialism and imperialist anti-Arab separate deals; Iraq and other Arab countries also opposed that deal. Attempts to gain support for the Camp David deal from the Arab world have failed. This creates circumstances that call for the setting up of a vast and general Arab front for the struggle for a just settlement in the Middle East.

The Soviet Union and other members of the socialist community as well as all the progressive anti-imperialist forces in the world will no doubt stand by the front. The activity of such a front has on more than one occasion brought success to the just cause of the Arabs; now, it can become an effective instrument in their just struggle.

Among the results of the important Soviet-Syrian meeting is the common stand both sides adopted toward the events in Lebanon where the interference of Israel and the imperialist forces has intensified. Both sides underlined their determination to help in restoring normalcy to the situation in Lebanon on the basis of guaranteeing Lebanon's sovereignty, independence and its territorial integrity. At the same time, the necessity was pointed out for taking into consideration the interests of the Palestinian resistance movement in Lebanon.

Finally, it was reasserted in Moscow that the Soviet Union and Syria intended to continue consolidating their relations of friendship and cooperation. Tangible decisions were made in the interst of developing cooperation in various fields, including that of consolidating the defensive forces of the Syrian Arab Republic. All this leads to the conclusion that the visit of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to Moscow was successful and will serve the cause of freedom, peace and justice in the Middle East.

Further Comment on Visit

LD070252Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The official and friendly visit of the Syrian party and government delegation headed by Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic, to the Soviet Union has concluded. The visit was particularly significant. This time, Comrade Hafiz al-Asad came to Moscow not only in his capacity as president of the Syrian Arab Republic but also as a representative of the other sides in the National Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation which discussed at its recent conference in Damascus the current responsible stance toward Middle East developments.

The conference requested that President Hafiz al-Asad contact the Soviet Union and other socialist countries to coordinate joint action in the face of the anti-Arab Camp David collusion.

When the participants in the Damascus conference decided to approach the Soviet Union, they delcared that the Soviet Union has never remained aloof from the Arabs during their difficult hours. The Soviet Union has always been alongside their just cause. In the current circumstances during which attempts are being made to impose surrender and a defeatist piecemeal settlement on the Arab nation, the Soviet Union has uttered its weighty word. Leonid Brezhnev expressed support for all the Arabs who reject this surrender when he said that the promoters of separate deals have been working as if there were no Arab countries in the Middle East other than Egypt, whose leadership is kneeling before U.S.-Israeli will. The Arabs are not pawns that can be moved at will, but are makers of their own destiny. In their absence and behind their backs and against their legitimate rights and interests, a lasting settlement of the Middle East conflict cannot be guaranteed.

These words by Leonid Brezhnev, we believe, will serve as a warning to those who imagine that they can work in a vacuum created by their own intrigues aimed at shattering and weakening the resistance of the Arabs in order to isolate them from their friends and true allies. The Arab world's reaction to the Camp David agreements has shown how alien these calculations are to reality. President Hafiz al-Asad said in Moscow: We will not accept decisions that have been imposed on our people by forces which humiliate the Arab nation and threaten the future of our generations. We will struggle against such settlements with all the means at our disposal.

The visit of President Hafiz al-Asad to Moscow and his talks here have shown once again and most strongly the extent of the great desire on the part of those Arabs who have not bowed their heads to the will of the aggressors and their protectors to see the Soviet Union participating in the process of the Middle East settlement. As for the Soviet Union, which gives the greatest measure of support for the just cause of the Arabs, it has stated once again its readiness to make its own contribution to this process. Leonid Brezhnev said: If Washington is inclined to forget the Geneva conference and the fact that this conference has two cochairmen--namely, the Soviet Union and the United States--with the rights and obligations this entails, we will remember this very well and we shall work on this basis.

ARAB SOLIDARITY GREATEST WEAPON IN MIDEAST STRUGGLE

LD071116Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary: "The Fifth Anniversary of the October 1973 War"]

[Summary] The Arab officers and soldiers proved during the war that they are capable of hitting the enemy. Allegations regarding the quality of Soviet weapons also proved unfounded. Even Dayan said then that Soviet weapons were superior to American weapons in many instances. Dayan then admitted that the efforts of the Soviet military experts were not in vain. Arab soldiers showed that their fighting capability had improved. Another myth shattered was that of the superiority of Western weapons. Arabs were able to shoot down Western aircraft and destroy Western tanks. Another weapon which was demonstrated was Arab solidarity.

The October war created conditions favorable to the Arabs. This was understood by the Arab's enemies. Israel and its U.S. friends began plotting to undermine Arab solidarity and Soviet-Arab friendship and cooperation. Regrettably, they found men in the Arab world who cooperated with them: the Egyptian leadership. As a result, Egypt's position weakened. Cairo found itself isolated in the Arab world. Since the Sinai agreement, the Egyptian leadership has pursued a course which inevitably led to the capitulation at Camp David.

The Camp David deal is a success for the anti-Arab policy pursued by U.S. imperialism and Zionism. The Camp David agreement dealt a blow to Arab interests and provided U.S. imperialism with the opportunity to enlarge its neocolonialist positions in the Middle East and enabled the enemy to consolidate its occupation.

"Recent events indicate that Camp David will lead to further consequences which Washington, Tel Aviv and the Egyptian leadership do not like. As stated by Leonid Brezhnev at the dinner reception held in the Kremlin in honor of the Syrian president: The Arabs are not submissive pawns in the game, but the makers of their own destiny. No one will succeed in insuring a firm settlement of the conflict in the Middle East without them, for them and contrary to their legitimate rights and interests. This statement by the Soviet leader fully reflects the real state of affairs in the present situation in the Middle East.

"The great majority of the Arabs categorically reject the policy of (?detente) and capitulation before the enemy and its imperialist protectors and firmly support the continuation of the persistent struggle for the elimination of all traces of Israeli aggression. In the name of this objective, the issue of the reunification of Arab ranks becomes once again most urgent, and it is the sharpest weapon in the struggle. Once again, patriotic forces in the Arab world call for the widening and consolidation of the friendly relations and comprehensive solidarity with the USSR and other socialist countries. The pioneering Arab states are making great strides in this direction for which they deserve thanks. These efforts are fully understood and supported by the USSR. This was announced Thursday by Leonid Brezhnev with all frankness and clarity. Finally, it can be said without fear that the lessons of the October 1973 war have not gone with the wind, and they still remaind the Arabs, their allies and friends that they have sufficient strength and capabilities to force the enemy and its defenders to take into consideration their demands and legitimate aspirations for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and to guarantee the national rights and vital interests of the victims of aggression, the Palestinian Arab people and all the other Arab peoples.

"Leonid Brezhnev said on Thursday at the Kremlin reception in honor of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad: The clearly expressed will of all who cherish Arab interests and the cause of a lasting and just peace in the Middle East must help bring to readon those who search for solutions to the problems along devious and dishonest roads to separate deals. Thank you and peace be with you."

TASS CONDEMNS ISRAELI BOMBARDMENT OF BEIRUT

LD061544Y Moscow TASS in English 1534 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 6, TASS--It has been officially announced in Tel Aviv that Israeli warships yesterday evening shelled Beirut, their guns opening up against the positions of the inter-Arab peace-keeping force in Lebanon and the Palestine resistance movement. This brazen military action was undertaken at once following a meeting of the Israeli Cabinet, which discussed the situation in Lebanon behind closed doors and decided to "defend the right-Christian military formations."

PRM circles report that Israel attempted to land a landing party on the Lebanese coast, but the attempt was frustrated by coastal artillery.

The new open Israeli interference in the internal affairs of a neighbouring sovereign state is a fresh stage in its expanding aggression against Lebanon.

Following its piratic attack on the south of the country, Tel Aviv has now spread its aggression to the central parts of Lebanon and its capital. Thus, Israel actually becomes a direct party to the conflict, having interfered with arms in the affairs of a sovereign country, which are of a purely internal character. As the Washington POST points out, this act of Israeli intervention in Lebanon leads to a further escalation of the war. The paper does not conceal that Israel's aggressive action is spearheaded also against Syria, which, as is known, rejected the separate Camp David deal between Cairo and Tel Aviv. The Syrian paper TISHRIN wrote in this connection that the sharpening situation in Lebanon is a result of the Camp David meeting. The American task in Lebanon, it says, is to make Syria agree to the American-Israeli decisions. The ambassador of Syria in Paris also stated that the present flare up of combat operations unleashed by the rightwing Christians is in support of plans to implement the separate agreements signed at Camp David.

As is known, the Soviet Union has repeatedly called all states to refrain from any actions that run counter to the principles of respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity. Naturally, these international principles relate in full measure also to Lebanon. Soviet people expressed and express warm sympathy with the Lebanese people who are innocently suffering great losses and terrible hardships. Our country has always come out for a ceasefire in Lebanon and the settlement of the differences there, of course proceding from the fact that this is first of all an internal matter for Lebanon and should be carried out by the Lebanese themselves, without any outside interference.

ISRAEL THREATENS DIRECT INTERFERENCE IN LEBANON

LD092208Y Moscow TASS in English 1845 GMT 9 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, November 9, TASS--Israel is threatening a direct military interference into Lebanon's internal affairs.

Speaking in an interview with the American CBS Television Company, Israeli Foreign Minister M. Dayan said that the recent shelling by Israeli ships of Beirut's western districts was an "indirect warning that if necessary, we will not hesitate to send our troops for an attack from the sea or in any other way against Beirut or other inland areas of Lebanon."

While openly threatening aggression, Israeli military are increasing arms supplies to their agents from among the Lebanese rightists, and are provoking new armed clashes between conservative detachments and the inter-Arab peace-keeping force. According to reports of eyewitnesses, big consignments of weapons and military equipment are coming daily from Israel to the port of Juniah, which is under the control of right-wing Christian detachments.

A tense lull has remained in the Lebanese capital over the last twenty four hours. The bloody fighting, which continued for more than a week, inflicted enormous damage to the city. Many neighbourhoods of Beirut have been turned into ruins. Energy and water supply arenas earlier cut off. [as received]

The smoke of fires can still be seen in a number of places. In the course of the day yesterday, rescue teams were sorting out the debris of collapsed buildings and evacuated injured persons. It is hard to estimate so far the number of victims of armed clashes. According to some data, 600 persons were killed and more than fifteen hundred injured.

In spite of the termination of fighting, scattered shooting could be heard yesterday in Al-Hadath and Karavtina areas. Several shells exploded on the highway leading to the international airport. Right-wing Christian snipers do not stop their provocative actions. They are holding under fire the positions of the inter-Arab force.

Bellicose statements by right-wing leaders lead to a further buildup of tensions. They threaten a resumption of hostilities and insist as earlier on withdrawal of the inter-Arab forces from the country. Camille Sham'un, chairman of the conservative Lebanese front, warned in particular that the present ceasefire will not last long.

Damascus, October 10, TASS--A fresh round of talks has been completed here between President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria and President Ilyas Sarkis of Lebanon. As Lebanese Foreign Minister F. Butrus, who took part in the talks, said, they covered possible ways for a settlement of the crisis in Lebanon.

According to press reports, President Sarkis intends to visit Saudi Arabia after which his consultations with the head of the Syrian state will be continued.

IRAQ THWARTS AIRSPACE VIOLATION BY ISRAEL

LD100920Y Moscow TASS in English 0827 GMT 10 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Baghdad, October 10, TASS--Iraq's Air Force frustrated several attempts by the Israeli Air Force to violate Iraqi air space in the region of the western frontier during last week.

A statement issued here by a military spokesman says that Iraq's early warning system had frustrated attempts by Zionist air force formations to violate Iraqi air space in the region of the western frontier last week.

ISRAELI AGRICULTURE MINISTER ON PLANNED NEW SETTLEMENTS

LD100920Y Moscow TASS in English 0835 GMT 10 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Amman, October 10, TASS--Israel plans to continue the building of paramilitary settlements on the occupied Jordan West Bank. This was announced by Sharon, the minister of agriculture in Begin's government, addressing Israeli settlers on territory seized from the Arabs.

The Israeli minister stated that the building of new settlements would begin immediately after the three-months period allowed by the Camp David agreement for the signing of a separate treaty between Israel and Egypt. Tel Aviv is also going to make further appropriations for the extension and strengthening of existing settlements.

REOPENING OF U.S. BASES IN TURKEY PROMPTS NEGATIVE REACTIONS

LD082044Y Moscow in Turkish to Turkey 1530 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Text] The Turkish Council of Ministers has decided that a number of U.S. military bases on Turkish territory should reopen. These bases were closed down in retaliation for the U.S. embargo on arms and military supplies to Turkey in 1975. At that time, the democratic forces in Turkey greeted this measure by the Turkish Government with approval. Ever since then, U.S. military circles and NATO military leaders have been exerting pressure on Turkey from various sides for the reopening of the bases, and they have not been pleased with Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit's statement that the Soviet Union posed no threat to Turkey. In an interview with the West German DIE WELT, Ecevit said that the Soviet Union did not behave aggressively toward Turkey and that an atmosphere of mutual trust prevails in current relations between the two countries.

One of these statements by the Turkish prime minister was in harmony with desires of U.S. circles which aim to take the world back to the cold war era and to dictate a new stage in the arms race to America's allies in the military blocs. Political and public figures, famous journalists, and representatives of business circles are aware that American bases on Turkish territory constitute a danger to Turkey's very independence and sovereignty by preventing the strengthening of relations with neighboring countries. According to GUNAYDIN, the Turkish nation is seriously concerned that there may be a return to the old times; the Turkish nation must keep up efforts to strengthen its relations with its neighbors, with the Arabs, and with various countries. Ahmet Sukro Esmer, a famous Turkish journalist, has stated the concern of Turkish public opinion that U.S. military bases on Turkish territory be abolished, that these bases were foisted on Turkey by NATO, and that these bases prevent the strengthening of Turkey's friendly relations with its Soviet neighbor and [words indistinct]--in short, that these bases on Turkish territory constitute a danger to Turkey's security.

According to GUNAYDIN, while these American bases on Turkish territory remain, Turkey's independence will amount to just so many words and will bring a certain amount of harm to Turkey's relations with neighboring countries.

Commenting on the question of the reopening of the American military bases in Turkey, CUMHURIYET says that Washington's actions prove that America itself is Turkey's greatest enemy. The great hurry about the reopening of the U.S. bases is the consequence of the White House strategy of [words indistinct]. Comment on this should be superfluous.

CYPRUS RATIFIES CONSULAR AGREEMENT WITH USSR

LD062222Y Moscow TASS in English 1050 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Nicosia, October 6, TASS--The House of Representatives of Cyprus has unanimously ratified a consular convention between the Republic of Cyprus and the Soviet Union.

The conclusion of the convention and its ratification is a substantial step in the development of Cyprus-Soviet relations, said deputy of the Cyprus Parliament Andreas Fantis.

He urged an all-round development of cooperation with the Soviet Union in all fields, stressing the big importance of this cooperation for the people of Cyprus.

Other deputies also praised the new bilateral document.

AKEL GENERAL SECRETARY CELEBRATES 70TH BIRTHDAY

Receives Soviet Award

LD081102Y Moscow TASS in English 1422 GMT 7 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 7, TASS--The Soviet Order of the October Revolution was awarded to General Secretary of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus [AKEL] Ezekias Papaioannou for his active and consistent struggle against reaction and fascism, for a great contribution to the development and strengthening of friendship between the Cyprus and Soviet peoples and in connection with his 70th birthday.

The CPSU Central Committee cordially congratulated Ezekias Papaioannou on his 70th birthday.

"The Soviet people know you well as courageous and active participant in the struggle against imperialism, reaction and fascism, for democratic development and social progress of Cyprus, know about your tireless efforts to strengthen ties between the CPSU and AKEL and about your consistent support of all-round consolidation of friendship between the peoples of Cyprus and the Soviet Union" the congratulatory message says.

Mass Celebration

LD082323Y Moscow TASS in English 1512 GMT 8 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Nicosia, October 8, TASS--The progressive public of Cyprus observed today the 70th birthday of General Secretary of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus (AKEL) Ezekias Papaioannou.

At a mass meeting in Nicosia, Deputy General Secretary of AKEL A. Fastis spoke about the fruitful activity of the great son of the Cyprus people Ezekias Papaioannou over many years. Leaders of mass organizations of Cyprus spoke, congratulating E. Papaioannou. Speaking in reply, E. Papaioannou assured the AKEL, all the working people of Cyprus that he will spare no efforts in the struggle for the just cause of his people.

The announcement that E. Papaioannou was awarded with the Soviet Order of the October Revolution and also with orders and medals of Bulgaria, GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia evoked stormy applause of those present at the meeting.

ETHIOPIAN AGRICULTURAL, ECONOMIC CHANGES SINCE REVOLUTION

LD070526Y Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

["Ethiopia: Along a New Path"--TASS Headline]

[Text] Moscow, October 6, TASS--"The people of socialist Ethiopia festively celebrated the 4th anniversary of the revolution and demonstrated convincingly its determination to follow the path of socialist orientation, to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the state from encroachments by external and internal reaction," writes Georgiy Kuznetsov, correspondent of the ZA RUBEZHOM (LIFE ABROAD) weekly, who returned from a trip to Ethiopia. The Soviet Union supports the friendly Ethiopian people and its leaders in their struggle. This is evidenced for instance by the Soviet-Ethiopian documents signed during the stay in that country of a Soviet party and state delegation, writes the correspondent.

Telling about the big transformations in the country during the four years which have passed since the revolution, the correspondent notes: "No one in Ethiopia is trying to conceal the fact that the country's industry is still in an embryo state and that its contribution to the gross national product does not exceed ten per cent. At present separatists are still holding a part of Eritrea, where over a third of all of the country's industrial enterprises are concentrated. A considerable part of those enterprises stand idle, this adversely affecting the overall economic situation.

"The backbone of the Ethiopian economy is agriculture," the correspondent underlines. The land owned by aristocracy and other representatives of the ruling class before the revolution now belongs to those who toil it--members of the 25,000 peasant associations and state farms. The peasants' ownership of land is a might lever to bring about a sharp rise in agricultural production. This branch of the national economy has yet another impressive precondition of growth: There are 25 million head of cattle, 23 million sheep and 17 million goats per 30 million of the population.

The country's leaders rank the propaganda of the advantages of collective forms of farming among the topmost tasks of work in the rural areas. The state will render assistance by lowering taxes, granting loans, selling fertilizers and implements at reduced prices. However, particular emphasis will be laid on state farms which are to become one of the pillars of the future socialist economy.

PRAVDA DESCRIBES REVOLUTIONARY ACHIEVEMENTS IN ETHIOPIA

LD060902Y Moscow TASS in English 0730 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

["Ethiopia: In Work and In Battle"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, October 6, TASS--The feudal-monarchic regime in Ethiopia is a thing of the past. The new revolutionary nation, which embarked on the road of socialist orientation is living, working and fighting, a correspondent of PRAVDA writes in his dispatch from Addis Ababa.

Ethiopia is steadfastly repelling the onslaught of internal and external enemies.

At the same time, under way in that country is also the creative process of the development of new public relations, of drawing millions of people into active political and ideological life, of bringing up a new man. The fourth year of the Ethiopian revolution is also marked by a further deepening of the reforms, which were proclaimed by a consolidation of the country's revolutionary national-democratic forces.

Twenty-five thousand peasant associations, thousands of kebele-urban associations are growing and strengthening. A new people's army is being successfully formed. In spite of war, sabotage and many other difficulties, the state sector is consolidating its urgent problems of the country and the population is steadily increasing.

As the correspondent notes, particularly significant changes have taken place after the agrarian reform in the countryside, where nearly 90 percent of Ethiopia's population lives.

The state, its various services are beginning to play an increasingly noticeable role in ensuring a rise and development of rural Ethiopia. A special agency for rural projects is building schools, medical-aid centers, water pipelines and houses. The Health Ministry has set itself as the main objective that of ensuring highly-skilled medical aid to the peasants in the next few years.

A major event this year has been the founding of the All-Ethiopian Peasant Association. The founding of the association has become an important stage in the consolidation and organization of the mass of the people under the slogan and banners of the revolution.

Associations of urban dwellers have also considerably strengthened over the recent years. They are even more confidently administering the affairs of their districts and neighborhoods, developing their economy, organizing supply, combatting unemployment, illiteracy and poverty of urban dwellers.

These achievements are opening up the possibility of founding a vanguard party of the working class, of democratization of the country's administration, creation of the people's republic, as is placed on record in the "programme of the national-democratic revolution."

TELEGRAMS MARK USSR-GUINEA DIPLOMATIC ANNIVERSARY

LD061441Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Oct 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--USSR Foreign Minister A.A. Gromyko and Guinea Foreign Minister F. Sissoko have exchanged telegrams of congratulations on the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Guinea.

The telegrams express confidence that Soviet-Guinea relations, permeated with a spirit of friendship and fruitful cooperation, will continue to reliably serve the interests of the peoples of the two countries and the cause of peace and progress.

PONOMAREV MEETS WITH ANC PRESIDENT TAMBO IN MOSCOW

LD070644Y Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Text] In Moscow on Friday, secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, Boris Ponomarev, had a meeting with a delegation of the African National Congress of South Africa led by its President Oliver Tambo.

The delegation expressed appreciation of Soviet support for the South African patriotic forces in their struggle against the racist regime. Boris Ponomarev said on his part that the Soviet people resolutely condemn the system of apartheid and champion the cause of liberation of the peoples in Africa's south from colonial domination.

JOINT ANGOLAN-VIETNAMESE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED IN LUANDA

LD071514Y Moscow TASS in English 1240 GMT 7 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, October 7, TASS--In the joint Angolan-Vietnamese communique issued here on the results of the official friendly visit to the People's Republic of Angola of Vice President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Nguyen Huu Tho, Angola and Vietnam "resolutely condemned the Peking authorities, which with obviously imperialist and expansionist aims and in alliance with the most reactionary forces of imperialism are perpetrating aggressions and manoeuvres not only violating Vietnam's independence and sovereignty, but also threatening peace and security in Southeast Asia, Africa and in the whole world." They consider the conflict between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and Kampuchea, one of the results of this policy.

The MPLA-Workers' Party, the government and people of Angola, says the communique, resolutely and invariably support the Vietnamese people both in socialist construction and in defence of its homeland. They demanded from the Chinese authorities an immediate end to hostile acts against Vietnam.

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Angola exchanged views on issues pertaining to the present international situation and stressed that only in close cooperation with the countries of socialist system that effective struggle of peoples for peace, national independence and social progress is possible.

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Angola declared their full support for the struggle of the peoples of Asia, Latin Africa [as received] and Latin America against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racialism and Zionism, against all the reactionary forces, for genuine national independence and social progress.

The communique expresses full support for the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Angola, for the struggle by the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front and the African National Congress of South Africa against the regimes of racialism and apartheid.

Having resolutely condemned the manoeuvres of Israel striving with the support of imperialists to split the rank of the Arab states and deprive the Arab people of Palestine of the right to self-determination and independence, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Angola declared in support of the just struggle of the Arab peoples for the return of the occupied Arab territories, for the recognition of the right of the Palestinian people headed by PLO to create its own state.

The sides hailed the important contribution by the nonalignment movement to the struggle of peoples for independence, peace, security and development, for the establishment of the just economic and social order.

The joint communique devotes considerable attention to a further strengthening of the relations of solidarity and fraternal friendship between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Angola, to condemnation of the aggressive acts of the racialist regime of the South African Republic against the People's Republic of Angola.

MOSCOW COMMENTS ON RESULTS OF ANGOLAN WORKERS CONFERENCE

LD070722Y Moscow in Portuguese to Africa 1700 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Excerpts] The Third Conference of the National Union of Angolan Workers, UNTA, has come to an end. The new statutes of the Angolan trade unions, like the other papers approved by the conference, express the desire of the Angolan working class to build socialism under the guidance of the MPLA-Labor Party. This is the theme of our commentary.

In Angola, the working class is, for now--as in most African countries--an insignificant part of the population. But, when united in trade unions, it is the most organized sector of society. The conference of Angolan trade unions showed that the working class is set on an active role in national development and that it is determined to defend the gains of the revolution under the leadership of the MPLA-Labor Party.

Only the socialist path of development can insure that Angola will enjoy true independence, social progress, happiness and well-being for the workers, stresses the final statement of the Third Conference of the National Union of Angolan Workers, UNTA.

NEW AMBASSADORS APPOINTED TO WEST AFRICA

LD061515Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Oct 78 Morning Edition p 6 LD

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Comrade Arkadiy Nikolayevich Kazanskiy USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Republic of Upper Volta.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has appointed Comrade Dmitriy Alekseyevich Dyakonov USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe.

RATSIRAKA RECEIVES VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR'S CREDENTIALS

LD081414Y Moscow TASS in English 1319 GMT 8 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Antananarivo, October 8, TASS--President Didier Ratsiraka of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar said that Vietnam is a beacon for the fighting people of the developing countries. They are inspired by the courageous heroic struggle, which Vietnamese people fought for 30 years against imperialist of every ilk.

Receiving today credentials from the first Vietnamese ambassador to Madagascar Truong Binh, the President said that imperialism has recourse to physical destruction of progressive leaders of the developing countries, as was the case with Lumumba and Nguabi, is destabilizing progressive governments and trying to split the ranks of progressive forces. It is in our common interest, he stressed, to rally closer and unite in the struggle against imperialism.

ASEAN COUNTRIES SEEKING 'NORMAL' TIES WITH NEIGHBORS

LD091315Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Oct 78 p 4 LD

[V. Kalinin article: "ASEAN: The Real Path of Development"]

[Text] The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) consists of five countries--Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines--which possess an impressive economic potential. The total population of these countries is 250 million. Rubber, tin, palm oil, copra and tropical varieties of timber come onto the world market in considerable quantities from there. There are major deposits of iron ore, copper, nickel, tungsten and oil there.

The growth of this economic grouping's weight in international affairs has come about mainly in very recent years, although the grouping was created back in 1967. At that time, U.S. imperialism, waging an aggressive war in Vietnam, was seeking to use the organization in its military-political plans by hampering the development of its normal links with other countries of the region. At present, the need for independently determining paths of development is being realized more and more deeply by the members of the association.

A number of problems are currently facing the ASEAN countries. Despite the quite high rate of industrial development, they remain, as before, in the situation of an agrarian-raw materials adjunct to the capitalist world. For centuries this division of labor was cultivated by colonialism, and neocolonialism is seeking to preserve this situation. Foreign monopolies invest capital there primarily in those sectors where it is possible to obtain the maximum profit with the minimum expenditure. As a rule, the lion's share of foreign capital investment is channeled into mining, oil extraction, and timber working whereas, for example, agriculture accounts for only a few percent of the total amount invested.

As before, the fettering of the "five" to the capitalist markets is being preserved. Exports (basically of raw materials) to Japan constitute 27 percent of total exports; to the United States--18 percent; and to the EEC--13 percent. And it is mainly industrial goods, whose prices are constantly rising, which are imported from those same countries. Monopoly capital is seeking to strengthen its positions in that region. Present U.S. capital investment amounts to $4.5 billion and, according to estimates by observers, Japan has already overtaken the United States.

The developing countries which, because they lack money of their own, are forced to attract investment from abroad, are at the same time taking steps to somehow limit manifestations of the exploitative essence of imperialist capital. Thus, in the Philippines an economic policy is being drawn up for the next few years which provides for growing emphasis on national resources with the gradual diminution of the use of foreign financial sources. According to statements by representatives of the authorities, preference will be given to the development of the agricultural sector and the building of medium-sized enterprises and installations which will provide a flow of hard foreign currency into the state's treasury. It is planned to allocate more money for the development of transport and housing construction.

The government in Bangkok has given instructions to all foreign mining companies having concessions in Thailand to register as Thai companies, with foreign capital not exceeding 40 percent of the company's shares. In the words of Industry Minister Kasem Chatikawanit, the cabinet is examining the question of levying increased payments from foreign companies operating in mineral-rich regions, for the right to carry out prospecting work. [paragraph continues]

Naturally, the ASEAN members are seeking to cooperate among themselves in order to reduce their dependence on the developed capitalist states. At meetings of representatives of the "five" which took place on the Indonesian island of Bali in 1976 and in the Malaysian capital, Kuala Lumpur, in 1977, a comprehensive program was devised for building one major industrial installation in each country to cater to the association's market: a diesel engine plant in Singapore, a soda ash factory in Thailand, a superphosphate plant in the Philippines and two urea plants--one each in Malaysia and Indonesia. It is planned to provide the capital investment for the erection of these installations on the basis of 75 percent from foreign investments and 25 percent through local joint-stock companies.

However, according to Asian press data, the implementation of the plans has encountered great difficulties--above all, the reluctance of foreign capital to finance projects which would strengthen the economic autonomy of the developing countries.

Some progress has been achieved in negotiations on tariff preferences within the association. In January 1977, Singapore and the Philippines reached agreement on a 10-percent reduction in the tariffs on 1,700 different goods. Later a similar agreement was concluded by Singapore and Thailand. Other countries, too, have consented to lower tariffs on a number of goods by between 10 and 30 percent.

An exchange fund of $100 million is being created in ASEAN on the basis of equal subscriptions by its members, and any country having a trade deficit with its other partners in the association can draw a short-term loan from the fund of up to $40 million.

The desire of the "five" to get into the habit of intraregional cooperation is understandable. The series of talks which the "five" have conducted over the last 18 months with capitalist countries and groupings have shown that only through their combined efforts is it possible to force the capitalist countries and groupings to make serious concessions in such questions as the liberalization of trade, the elimination of the "scissors-effect" of prices and the channeling of investment into industrial and agricultural production. Politicians are appealing and the ASEAN press is speaking of the need for cohesion.

Nevertheless, nothing is definite in this very important matter. There are proposals for integration on the basis of the association in its present form and for striving for the conclusion of agreements with capitalist powers like the Lome Convention which regulates trade, economic, financial and customs relations between the EEC and countries which, in the past, were colonies of the member states of the "nine." But the number of advocates of this project is diminishing as it is being discovered that the Lome Convention is aimed at the continued preservation of inequitable relations between the capitalist and developing countries. Proposals are also being put forward for the expansion of the association by admitting some neighboring countries, or even for the creation of an Asian "common market" to which states from Iran to Australia would belong in various combinations. However, these ideas are not accompanied by any serious substantiation and are not producing any broad public response.

The situation that is developing in and around Southeast Asia is suggesting the real path of development for the "five." Vietnam, Laos, India and Bangladesh, which already have trade and economic ties with ASEAN member countries, are prepared to develop these ties. The recent visits by the prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to Thailand, the Philippines and Indonesia and the agreements concluded attest that the establishment of neighborly relations among countries with different social systems reveals opportunities for achieving economic progress with greater efficiency.

It is significant that the ASEAN capitals too are realizing the need for broad regional cooperation. As C. Romula, Philippines foreign minister, declared, "the long-term aim of ASEAN is the establishment of constructive and mutually advantageous relations with our neighbors with the aid of an initiative based on reciprocity and in a spirit of peaceful coexistence."

These aspirations have a realistic basis. The process of improving the situation in the region, which was ushered in by the victory of the peoples of Indochina in the struggle against imperialist aggression, has enabled the majority of Southeast Asian countries over a comparatively short period--just 3 years--to overcome to a considerable degree the mistrust and suspicion left over from the war, to normalize relations among themselves and to set about establishing mutually advantageous ties. (Perhaps just one country in the region--Cambodia--which has become caught in the snare of Peking's policy, constitutes an exception). The determining factors of this turnaround are detente, the peace-loving, constructive initiatives of the socialist countries of Indochina, the good will of all the peoples of the region and the realistic position of the leaders of the developing states.

Definite positive experience has been accumulated in the relations of the states of Southeast Asia with the Soviet Union. The capitals located there have seen for themselves from practice that the USSR is not seeking one-sided advantages for itself, that it adheres to the principle of mutual advantage and at the same time is not seeking political domination. Cooperation with the Soviet Union is enabling the developing countries to strengthen their economic independence. The ASEAN "five" have great reserves in the sphere of deepening contacts with their neighbors and with socialist countries.

JAPANESE DEFENSE FORCES BECOMING 'OFFENSIVE'

LD061439Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Oct 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[S. Chugrov answer to reader's question: "Forgetting the Lessons of the Past"]

[Text] The press has reported the preparation in Japan of draft laws in case of so-called "extraordinary circumstances." What are these draft laws? [Signed] V. Milashenko, Krasnodar.

[S.Chugrov answer] "The attacking military aircraft, on whose wings the rays of the rising sun shone out, swooped down toward the flotilla of seven destroyers which were surging forward in the Pacific. A few seconds later the aircraft turned upward with a roar, while between the two lines of ships muffled explosions were heard and jets of water shot up." That is how a REUTER correspondent began his report from the Japanese missile-carrying destroyer Tahikaze.

This demonstration by the naval self-defense forces took place on 2 August. The next day KYODO reported that Japan's National Defense Agency had decided to prepare a program of action for "extraordinary circumstances." A special group within the National Defense Agency was created for this. Its main task is devoted to a legislative basis for the Self-Defense Forces' actions in the event of an "unexpected external attack on Japan."

What is the essence of the special legislation? In accordance with existing defense laws, only the prime minister, with the agreement of the cabinet and theoretically with the approval of the Diet, can send the 235,000-man Japanese Armed Forces into action. The new bills provide for granting the command staff of the Japanese "Self-Defense Forces" the right to enter into armed conflict without the prime minister's sanction. In essence, the name "defense forces" is becoming a fiction, and this hypocritical title should be replaced by "offensive forces."

The elaboration of the bills is nearly finished, and an appropriate report will be presented to the Diet, in spring 1979. As the Japanese press reports, the bills envisage revising several provisions in the country's constitution, the further buildup of the armed forces and the strengthening of the military alliance between the United States and Japan.

The Japanese public is also disturbed by another facet of the question. Y. Nakasone, chairman of the Executive Council of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, has admitted that the introduction of "extraordinary legislation" will inevitably restrict the rights and freedoms of Japanese citizens as guaranteed by the constitution.

The conclusion is self-evident: The plans harbored by the Japanese military clique constitute a threat to peace and security in Asia and contradict the vital interests of the Japanese people. That is why an active struggle has now been launched in Japan in defense of the peaceful and democratic articles of the constitution.

The DPRK shadow of militarism hangs over Japan. "The memory lives on in the broad masses of the people of how prewar Japan, having adopted a law on general mobilization and other extraordinary laws one after the other, embarked on a path of war," the newspaper ASAHI writes. "We must not choose the wrong path in insuring Japan's peace and security."

RECENT JOINT U.S.-JAPANESE NAVAL EXERCISES DISCUSSED

LD061236Y Moscow TASS in English 1222 GMT 6 Oct 78

[Text] Tokyo, October 6, TASS--TASS correspondent Nikolay Geronin writes:

The recent big American naval exercises in the northwest Pacific were a new demonstration of force and a new step to aggravate tension in Asia. 40 combat ships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, including aircraft carriers, 200 planes and Marines, a total of more than 15,000 American servicemen, as well as Japanese naval units took part in these exercises. As reported by the Japanese press, the purpose of these exercises was to prepare for operations to ensure American "naval superiority" at sea and to land troops in the event of "contingencies." The exercises again clearly demonstrated the dangerous nature of the militaristic preparations by the United States and Japan. These preparations include the drawing up within the framework of the Japanese-American defence coordinating committee of operational plans of the interaction of United States and Japanese armed forces in the event of "contingencies." In Asia and the Pacific, Washington pursues a policy of intensifying military psychosis and of drawing Tokyo into its ventures. This policy of the ruling circles of the United States and Japan is condemned by the peace-loving Japanese public.

NEW ROK MISSILES, ARMED FORCES MODERNIZATION 'PROVOCATIVE'

SK070240Y Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 6 Oct 78 SK

[Commentary by Petrov]

[Text] According to foreign dispatches, South Korea recently conducted a test of domestically produced surface-to-surface missiles on the west coast. Official spokesmen in Seoul said that the missiles will be deployed along the Demilitarized Zone--that is, on the border with the DPRK, an independent socialist country. It is obvious that such remarks are provocative. In recent years, the Seoul regime has accelerated its plan to militarize South Korea on the far-fetched pretext of an invasion from the north. This year alone, it allocated 1/3 of its state budget for military spending. South Korea's defense industry produces an assortment of weapons. Meanwhile, the Seoul regime stubbornly talks about the danger of nuclear weapons. What puzzles us is that the so-called "national conference for unification," which is obliged to work to solve matters related to the nation's territorial integrity, has appealed for domestic research in arms production.

South Korea's militaristic tendencies are backed by U.S. military and financial aid. The Pentagon's strategists have undertaken a plan to modernize the South Korean Armed Forces at an estimated cost of $8 billion. With the money provided in the plan, the Seoul regime will buy the latest military aircraft, helicopters, artillery and missiles including Honest Johns which can carry nuclear warheads. As to the influx of a great quantity of weapons into South Korea commentators note that the U.S. brass and the Seoul regime are converting South Korea into a powder keg, heightening tension on the Korean Peninsula.

It is not hard to see that militaristic South Korea is creating new obstacles to normalizing the situation in this part of the world and to realizing the nation's reunification--the earnest desire of all the Korean people. Progressive social circles the world over strongly denounce the United States militaristic circles and the South Korean authorities for the line they pursue, jeopardizing the cause of peace.

ARMENIAN CP CONFERENCE ON PLAN, PLEDGE FULFILLMENT

LD061519Y Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 30 Sep 78 p 1 LD

[Text] ARMENPRESS--A conference has taken place in the Armenian CP Central Committee with the participation of gorkom and raykom secretaries and leading workers of republic ministries and departments.

Measures for the successful fulfillment of state plans and socialist pledges for 1978 and the 5-year plan as a whole, preparations for winter, and strengthening savings in fuel and electricity were examined.

K.S. Kemirchyan, first secretary of the Armenian CP Central Committee, spoke at the conference. He said that the republic's working people have achieved positive results in the current 5-year plan in the fulfillment of economic plans and socialist pledges. A certain amount of work has been done to raise production efficiency, improve product quality and other technical and economic indicators.

Comrade K.S. Kemirchyan noted at the same time that shortcomings are also occuring in the development of the republic's economy. Certain enterprises do not insure fulfillment of the plan providing for the volume of industrial output, the increase in labor productivity and profitability, and a rise in the operational qualities of products. Serious shortcomings in the work of construction organizations were also sharply criticized. Capital investments are not commissioned on schedule and new production capacities are started up slowly. A large proportion of his speech was devoted to analyzing the state of affairs in agriculture in light of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July (1978) Plenum. It was noted that, overcoming this year's unfavorable weather conditions, rural workers have cultivated a good harvest and are now continuing with great energy to fight for the successful completion of all current agricultural work. Their main attention is devoted to insuring good organization of the harvest, stockpiling fodder for public stockraising, and preparing for livestock wintering in every way.

Comrade K.S. Demirchyan dwelt in detail on the most important tasks of party, soviet, economic, trade union and Komsomol organizations in launching extensive organizational, ideological and political work directed toward the successful fulfillment of targets economic and social development as well as the socialist pledgee adopted by the republic for 1978 and the 5-year plan as a whole. Here he particularly stressed the need to insure rational exploitation of material resources and to establish in all sectors of social production the strictest regime of economy and thrift in the use of fuel and electricity.

Confidence was expressed at the conference that party, soviet, economic, trade union and Komsomol organizations in the republic will exert every effort to insure that the current year is crowned with high technical and economic indicators, to create a firm basis for more efficient work in the subsequent years of the 5-year plan, and to steadily implement the historic decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress.

Taking part in the work of conference were Comrades P.P. Anisimov, G.M. Voskanyan, V.B. Galumyan, K.L. Dallakyan, L.N. Nersesyan, F.T. Sarkisyan, M.B. Arzumanyan, L.G. Saakyan; and Deputy Chairmen of the Armenian Council of Ministers, A.M. Kirakosyan, G.A. Ayrapetyan, K.A. Gambaryan and R.Kh. Sveetlova.

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

CSA REPORTS 72 PERCENT OF POTATOES HARVESTED

LD071428Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0200 GMT 7 Oct 78 LD

[Summary] As the USSR Central Statistical Administration has reported, potatoes have been lifted on 72 percent of the acreage planted. This year, autumn turned out to be exceptionally capricous. There is intermittent rain and snow and there is night frost. Thus, on potato fields where the harvest is being completed success is now literally decided by days and hours.

Things are organized efficiently in Bryanskaya Oblast, which has the largest potato plantations in the RSFSR--118,000 hectares. On those fields where conditions do not hamper the work, lifting machinery is being operated in two shifts.

RADIOS REPORT AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 5-8 OCT

LD070526/LD090307/AU061617 [Editorial Report LD/AU] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0500 GMT on 5 October reports on the progress of the cotton harvest, which is now fully underway. The amount of raw cotton picked throughout the country has reached a total of 3.2 million tons. The plantation workers in Uzbek have accepted impressive pledges. More than 2 million tons of cotton have been transported to procurement points. The work is progressing successfully in Tadzhikistan, Azerbaijan and Kirgiz.

The radio reports at 0855 GMT that Ukrainian farmers have sold 1.053 billion puds of grain to the state this year. Since 1973, over 6 billion puds of grain have been sent to the procurement points in the republic. Mikhail Khorunzhiy, Ukrainian minister of agriculture, spoke to a TASS correspondent about the contribution of other industries to the farmers' successes. This year alone, he said, the state provided farms in the Ukraine with 54,000 tractors, 44,500 trucks, 13,500 grain harvesters and many other items of equipment.

At 0900 GMT the radio reports that in Ryazanskaya Oblast potatoes have been harvested on more than 70,000 hectares, which represents two-thirds of the planted area. In Kharkovskaya Oblast 1 million tons of sugar beets have been delivered. Oblast workers have pledged to deliver 2.5 tons of sugar beets and to produce over 300,000 tons of sugar. In Buryatskaya ASSR, autumn plowing is planned for 200,000 hectares. It has already been completed on half this area. In Georgia, 421,373 tons of tea have been sold to the state.

The radio continues its reporting at 1430 GMT with an announcement that in Rostovskaya Oblast machine operators have delivered 4.3 million tons of grain to procurement points. This exceeds the plan by 800,000 tons.

At 1445 GMT Moscow radio adds that in Altayskiy Kray machine operators have been engaged in the autumn plowing. To date, they have plowed 3.5 million hectares of arable land, or 80 percent of the land designated for this purpose. The USSR Central Statistical Administration today released data on the progress of fodder procurement. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes have stored 158 million tons of silage, or two-thirds of the planned amount. Work in siloing is now the principle activity in the laying-in of fodder. Not only are specially grown fodder crops being used to fill the trenches, but the tops of sugar beets, root crops and vegetables, which have been grown in abundance thanks to the wet summer, are also being used. As practice shows, this constitutes a significant reserve to supplement supplies of fodder.

Haymaking is also underway once again. Perennial grasses are being harvested by a second and third hay cutting, but since drying them is a complex process, at the moment they are being used primarily for silage. The next 10 days are critical for the laying-in of fodder. During this time the success of the forthcoming wintering at the farms will be decided.

Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian at 1800 GMT on 5 October reports that Khersonskaya Oblast farms have thus far delivered to the state more than 1.3 million tons of grain, including over 500,000 tons of strong, valuable wheat varieties. "Rice gathering has now begun in the south of the oblast. The first to use their rice harvesting combines were the Skadovskiy and Golopristanskiy Rayon machine operators, who have already mown rice on the 1 thousandth hectare."

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0100 GMT on 6 October reports that grain harvesting is in progress on the last few thousand hectares in Krasnoyarskiy Kray. Some rayons have achieved an average yield of 20-25 quintals per hectare. Fallow land is now being plowed, and the laying-in of fodder is nearly complete. More than 50 percent of the planned cotton harvest has been picked in Tadzhikistan; 865,000 tons of raw cotton have been promised.

At 0500 GMT Moscow radio reports that in Kurskaya Oblast, 105,000 hectares of sugar beets have been harvested, which represents 1/2 of the planted area. In spite of bad weather, the pace of work is increasing.

Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian at 0500 GMT on 6 October notes that Crimean machine operators are working hard to harvest rice and to increase their oblast's share in the Ukraine's grain deliveries to 761,000 tons. "Nearly all kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the oblast have already joined in the rice harvest."

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian reports at 0830 GMT that in Severo-Kazakhstanskaya Oblast, the 25 millionth ton of grain given the state since the mastery of the virgin land region will be delivered today.

At 1900 GMT Moscow radio reports that Orenburgskaya Oblast has already sold 5.6 million tons of grain to the state; Saratovskaya, 4.9 million; Volgogradskaya, 4.6 million; and Rostovskaya, 4.3 million tons. Krasnodarskiy Kray has promised 4.35 million tons, and is firmly keeping its word. Thus these five oblasts will produce nearly 24 million tons of grain, or about 1.3 billion puds. The Ukraine has produced an average of more than 30 quintals per hectare, according to preliminary estimates, and has sold 17.2 million tons, or over 1 billion puds. The state has already received 1 billion puds of grain from Kazakhstan.

Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0200 GMT on 7 October reports that Kuybyshevskaya Oblast has delivered 1.9 million tons of grain to the elevators despite difficult weather conditions throughout the growing season this year. At 0830 GMT the radio repeats the report, adding that this amount is already 560,000 tons above plan, and that grain procurement is continuing in the oblast.

At 0900 GMT the radio says that Voroshilovgradskaya Oblast has grown an "unprecedentedly good harvest" and has sold 640,000 tons of grain to the state so far.

Returning to Kuybyshevskaya Oblast in its 1200 GMT news, the radio says that the harvesting of potatoes, sugar beets and vegetables is drawing to a close there, and harvesting of sunflowers is underway. The oblast has also begun autumn plowing, with 1.78 million hectares completed so far.

At 0100 GMT on 8 October Moscow Radio reports that farmers in Altayskiy Kray have delivered 2 million tons of grain to elevators, 80 percent of it wheat. The report adds that the kray has overfulfilled the plan for production of oats, barley and millet. Seed stocks are complete, and fodder reserves are nearly complete, the report on the kray concludes.

At 1600 GMT the radio reports that the farmers of Chelyabinskaya Oblast have overfulfilled their pledges with the delivery of 1.5 million tons of grain to procurement points.

At 1750 GMT the radio says that the Ukraine and Kazakhstan have each sold over 1 billion puds of grain to the state, while in the RSFSR, Orenburgskaya, Saratovskaya, Volgogradskaya and Rostovskaya oblasts collectively have sold 1.25 billion puds of grain.

Moscow World Service in English at 2100 GMT on 8 October reports: "Despite the unfavorable weather, a record grain harvest was produced by the big grain-growing region of the Ukraine, and also by many regions in the south, the Volga area and in the Urals; 8.5 million tons of cotton are expected to be picked."

KIEV MEETING COMMEMORATES AGRICULTURAL WORKERS DAY

AU061950Y Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 6 Oct 78 AU

[Text] The Ukraine's agricultural workers are marking their profession's holiday with significant labor accomplishments. The republic's farmers are successfully fulfilling socialist pledges for grain sales to the state. A total of 1.055 billion puds of grain have already been delivered to the fatherland's granaries. They are striving to promptly complete the late crop harvest, to deliver the crops gathered to storehouses and to begin the next year with work in hand. The stockbreeders and the workers of other branches are working hard.

A solemn meeting was held in Kiev today to commemorate All-Union Agricultural Workers Day. Invited to it were advanced agricultural production workers, leaders and specialists from kolkhozes, sovkhozes, grain procurement, agricultural and industrial enterprises, scientists, and representatives of party, administrative and public organizations.

Before the opening of the meeting, its participants laid flowers at the monument to the founder of the Communist Party and the Soviet state, Vladimir Ilich Lenin, and at the monument in honor of the Great October Socialist Revolution. They also met leaders of the republic's agricultural ministries and departments.

Present in the meeting presidium were Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo members and candidate members Comrades Shcherbitskiy, Borisenko, Botvin, Vatchenko, Vashchenko, Lyashko, Petr Leoniyevich Pogrebnyak, Sokolov, Sologub, Titarenko, Fedorchuk, Gerasimov and Yakov Petrovich Pogrebnyak; Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers members; leaders of ministries and departments of Kiev city and Kievskaya Oblast; and figures prominent in agriculture.

Vladimir Vasilyevich Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian CP Central Committee first secretary, delivered an opening speech at the solemn meeting.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo with Leonid Ilich Brezhnev at the head was unanimously elected to the honorary presidium.

Aleksandr Pavlovich Lyashko, Ukrainian Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Council of Ministers chairman, delivered a report.

The solemn meeting was addressed by Socialist Labor Hero Parubok, mechanized team leader at the Suvorov Kolkhoz in Zhashkovskiy Rayon, Cherkasskaya Oblast, bearer of a USSR state prize and Ukrainian Supreme Soviet deputy; Socialist Labor Hero Dzhugan, stockbreeding branch manager at the Druzhba Kolkhoz in Poltavskiy Rayon, Poltavskaya Oblast, Socialist Labor Hero Garkavyy, branch chief in the All-Union Selection and Genetics Institute and VASKH NIL member; Donchenko, grinder operator at the arsenal plant in Kiev; and Lydmila Kolibovets, student at the Ukrainian Agricultural Academy.

The meeting's particpants, with great enthusiasm, adopted messages of greetings to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, as well as to the Ukrainian Central Committee, Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers.

The meeting's participants were offered a great concert.

Shcherbitskiy Address

LD062052Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Text] A solemn meeting on the occasion of All-Union Agricultural Workers Day took place in Kiev today. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and first secretary of the Ukrainian CP Central Committee, noted that the present festival coincided with an important date--the first anniversary of the new Constitution of the USSR. In this hall we welcome the glorious representatives of the Ukrainian grain farmers, who have grown the best harvest ever, he said. The threshing of grain crops, excluding corn, amounts to 30.4 quintals per hectare and 1.055 billion puds of grain crops have been delivered to the stores of the motherland. We have every reason to say that the task set for the republic by Comrade Brezhnev--to make the sale of 1 billion puds of grain to the state the minimum norm of grain farmers--is being fulfilled. In the last 5 years over 6 billion puds have been delivered to the state stores.

Speaking of the urgent tasks facing the rural workers, Comrade Shcherbitskiy stressed the need to implement everywhere concrete measures to fulfill the tasks set by Comrade Brezhnev at the 3 October meeting of the CPSU Central Committee: to store the produce that has been gathered, to deliver it to users in time, to fulfill and overfulfill plans and socialist pledges.

SOLOMENTSEV, KAPITONOV, DOLGIKH ATTEND MOSCOW MEETING

LD062234Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Text] The country's agricultural workers are marking their festival with labor successes. They have grown a good harvest of grain crops, cotton, sugar beets and other crops. Farmers from a great many RSFSR oblasts, the Ukraine and Kazakhstan are successfully fulfilling socialist obligations for the sale of grain to the state. In Moscow's Bolshoy Theater a solemn meeting was held today, devoted to All-Union Agricultural Workers Day. Heroes of the 1978 harvest, production leaders, vetrans of the kolhoz movement and representatives of the capital's public were present.

In the Meeting's presidium were Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers; and Secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee Kapitonov and Dolgikh. A report was delivered by USSR Agriculture Minister Mesyats. The meeting participants adopted a letter to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers, and Comrade Brezhnev.

VEGETABLE DELIVERIES DELAYED BY RAILROAD WORKERS

LD091706Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 9 Oct 78 LD

[Summary] The vegetable and potato harvest is nearing completion. In the RSFSR, 1 million tons of vegetables were procured last week. "Railroad men are not working properly all the time. At Stavropolskiy Kray stations, for example, 20,000 tons of onions awaiting dispatch to Moscow, Leningrad and other cities are currently lying in the open air. Vegetable delivery is also being delayed from Astrakhanskaya and Volgogradskaya oblasts. Procurement centers in Tula, Astrakhan and some other canneries are not able to receive goods on time. In Gorkiy, however, our correspondent reports, the reception of vegetables, potatoes and fruit has been well organized." The deputy head of the city's trade directorate has said that the city presently has storage space for 110,000 tons, including refrigerated storage areas with good ventilation. Almost 50,000 tons of goods are stored for winter in containers.

RAIN, TRANSPORTATION LAGS HAMPER SUGAR BEET HARVESTING

LD100326Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 9 Oct 78 LD

[Summary] Sugar beet harvesting is continuing, and farms are receiving additional help in the form of tens of thousands of vehicles from Kazakhstan and Siberia, which transport the roots directly from plantation to factory. However, rain is interfering with harvest work, and machine operators must use all possible measures to overcome the difficulties.

Another problem is delays in transportation caused by the deficient supply of fuel from Glaveneftesnab enterprises. "Transport work is further complicated by the ambiguous position of the Ministry of the Food Industry, which was supposed to create additional reception centers at railray stations. But the number of reception centers has not increased; on the contrary, it has been reduced. And drivers often have to take sugar beets 80-100 kilometers instead of 10-15. Understandably, this alone leads to losses and reductions in the quality of the product."

BRIEFS

AMURSKAYA OBLAST SOYBEAN DELIVERIES--Kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Amurskaya Oblast have begun the sell grain to the state. Yesterday they delivered 5,343 tons of soybeans to receiving centers, bringing the total soybeans delivered to date in the oblast to 14,372 tons. Yesterday the oblast threshed soybeans from 17,000 hectares, bringing the total soybeans threshed to date to 78,476 hectares, or 16 percent of the plan. The oblast has already tilled 798,730 hectares of fall plowland, or 59 percent of the plan. [Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 5 Oct 78 OW]

COSMOS-1042 ARTIFICIAL EARTH SATELLITE LAUNCHED

LD070900Y Moscow TASS in English 0854 GMT 7 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 7, TASS--Artificial earth satellite Cosmos-1042, next in the series, was launched in the Soviet Union on Friday. On board the satellite is installed scientific equipment designed for continuing outer space exploration.

The satellite was put into orbit with the following parameters: initial period of revolution--89.3 minutes, maximum distance from the earth's surface--326 kilometers, minimum distance--187 kilometres, inclination of the orbit--62.8 degrees. The onboard equipment is functioning normally.

PROGRESS REFUELLING OF SALYUT NECESSITATED BY EXPERIMENTS

LD061252Y Moscow TASS in English 1144 GMT 6 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 6, TASS--A TASS correspondent reports from Mission Control Station:

The Soviet Salyut-6 station, that is operating on orbit as a multipurpose scientific and economic laboratory, again switched on its docking lights on the night of October 5-6. A Progress transport ship, the fourth since the station was launched, docked to its cargo-handling hatch.

The Progress can be described as a universal transport ship. Its holds contain fuel and oxydizer intended for pumping into the station's combined engine plant, spare sets of equipment, photo film, materials for biological and technological experiments, and, of course, mail from the planet earth.

In the course of ten days the crew will unload the transport ship. Cosmonauts Vladimir Kovalenok and Aleksandr Ivanchenkov will transfer to the station the delivered equipment and take out of the station the "wastes of cosmic life." But pumping of the fuel will be the main operation in the space port. Mission Control Center entrusts it entirely to automatons. The cosmonauts will only check the refueling process.

The new refueling of the station was necessitated by the packed flight program. The four "space trucks" used within a single year are an indicator of the drastic increase in the efficient use of space hardware. Fuel expenditure was particularly great during the past month when numerous experiments requiring functioning of the orientation engines were carried out (taking pictures of the earth, work with the telescope and the geophysical program).

On unloading the transport ship, the cosmonauts will complete a number of technological, medical and biological experiments. They will then mothball the station and return to earth on board the Soyuz-31 ship.

TECHNOLOGY OF COSMONAUTS' ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATIONS

LD070750Y Moscow TASS in English 0640 GMT 7 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 7, TASS--A full lunar eclipse was for the first time ever in the history of cosmonautics observed from the orbit.

Soviet Cosmonauts Vladimir Kovalenok and Aleksandr Ivanchenkov, for the first time succeeded in making a photography of the far side of the moon, which was not illuminated by the sun this time, the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA reported today.

All information has already been transmitted through telemetric channels from board the scientific orbital complex Salyut-6-Soyuz to the earth. The preliminary results are of undoubted interest. Thus, in particular, they are to shed light on the nature of the moon's own (luminescence) glow.

And again observations from outer space are done with the use of a unique telescope with a mirror diameter of one and a half metres. The new telescope is meant for the exploration of many objects, including the coldest ones which simply do not glow in the visible range of the electromagnetic spectrum. Such a "supervision" is ensured through deep cooling (of down to minus 269 degrees) of a sensitive crystal submerged into a little bath--with liquid helium. The "eye" of the telescope will be really sharp, if it is cooler, for example, than a distant cloud in the galaxy.

Liquid helium is obtained in orbit by means of a unique small plant, which is actually a whole miniature factory running from the onboard power plant.

SALYUT CREW BEGINS UNLOADING PROGRESS-4, REFUELLING

LD091048Y Moscow TASS in English 1032 GMT 9 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Flight Control Center, October 9, TASS--Soviet Cosmonauts Vladimir Kovalenok and Aleksandr Ivanchenkov have been working in near earth outer space for 116 days now.

The working day on board the orbital research complex started at eight o'clock in the morning today and will last till 23 hours Moscow time.

After breakfast and checkup of the onboard systems of the complex, the crew members are doing work for unloading the transport spaceship Progress-4.

Simultaneously with unloading, the fuel capacities of the orbital Salyut-6 station are being prepared for refuelling. With this aim, compressed air is pumped out of the tanks of the joint engine installation.

According to reports of the crew and data of telemetric information, the onboard systems of the orbital complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-31-Progress-4 are functioning normally. Cosmonauts Vladimir Kovalenok and Aleksandr Ivanchenkov feel well.

Work on board the complex is being done in conformity with the program.

SUPERSONIC TU-144 'GIVES BIRTH' TO SUPERBOMBER

Paris LE POINT in French 2 Oct 78 p 68 WA

[Text] The supersonic Tupolev-144 (the Soviet rival of the Concorde), abandoned apparently in its civilian version, has given birth to a military aircraft that is now under construction: a superbomber equipped with TU-144 motors but with an entirely different look.